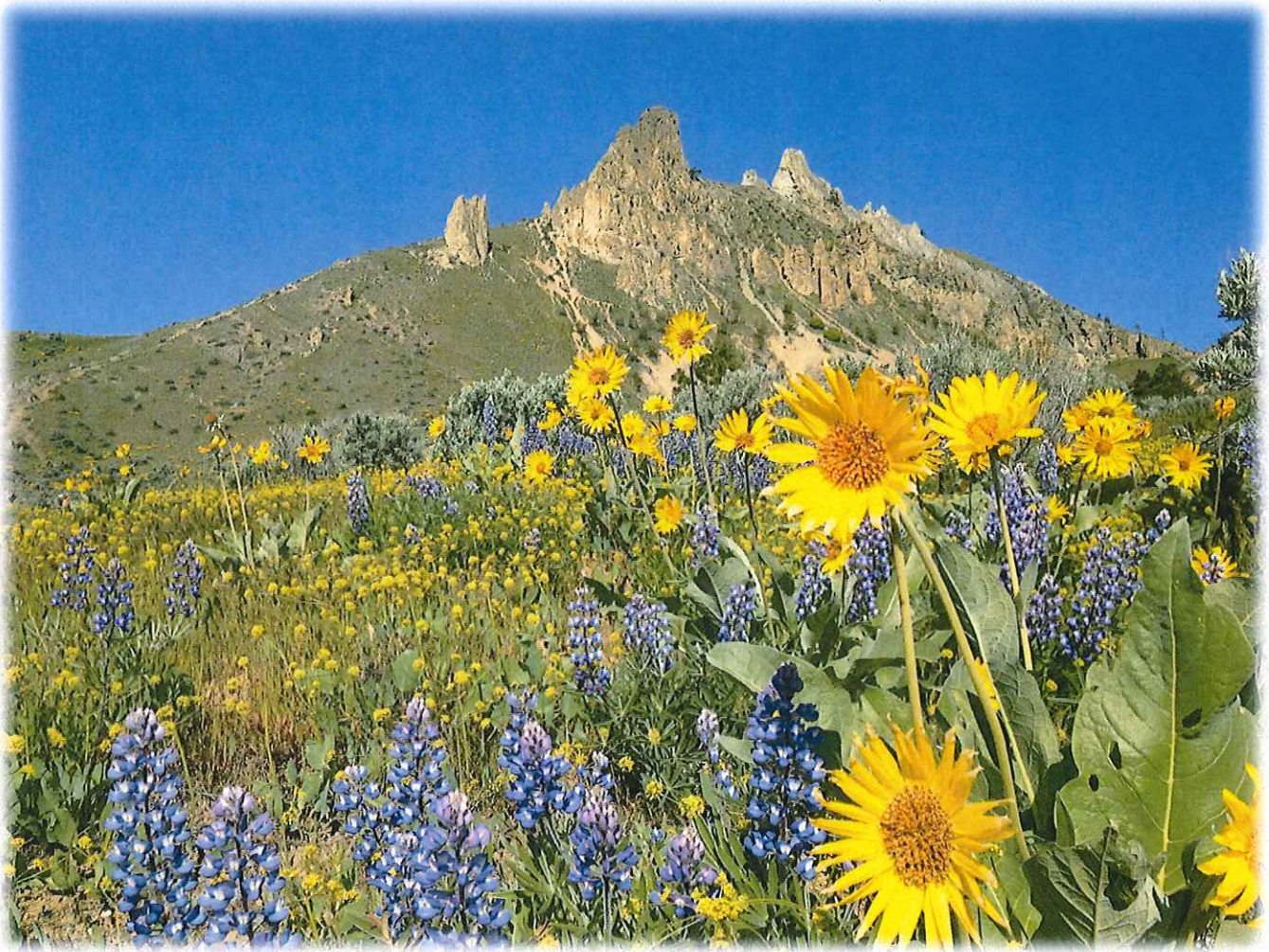


Habitat Plan



**City of Wenatchee
Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department
2015**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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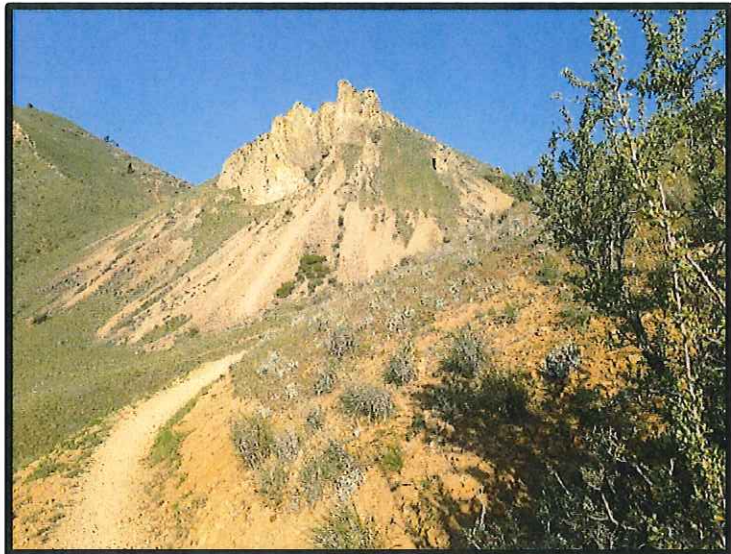


INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

The mission of the Wenatchee Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is to build a great community through it's' people, parks, and programs. The mission reflects two overarching principles. First, the community is the owner of the Department's programs and facilities. The mission also includes a commitment to managing and expanding the community's parks and recreation resources, including conservation of natural resources and support of the City's economic vitality. The result is the Department's consistent efforts to create a great community—one that is vibrant, healthy, and strong.

The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department has been protecting land and aquatic resources for outdoor recreation, habitat and open space since before it was officially established in 1953. This is accomplished by acquiring properties through the use of grant funding, working with project partners to leverage community donations, and receiving donations of land from private landowners. Working with private landowners, community groups and public agencies, by June 2015 the Department had protected in perpetuity, over 800 acres of land for outdoor recreation, habitat conservation and open space. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department continues to work with community partners to protect hundreds of additional acres.



To provide guidance in determining acquisition and habitat enhancement priorities, the City of Wenatchee adopted its first stand-alone Habitat Plan in 2009. The document, titled, "The Foothills Community Strategy" was the culmination of a fourteen month long planning and community engagement effort led by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust and Trust for Public Lands in partnership with the City of Wenatchee and Chelan County. The community strategy was adopted by the Wenatchee City Council on July 8, 2010 as a supplement to the 2012-2018 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan. This Habitat Plan is an update to the community strategy and will serve as the habitat component for the City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan for the next six years.



PLANNING AREA AND EXISTING RESOURCES

PLANNING AREA LOCATION

The City of Wenatchee is located in Chelan County in eastern Washington. It lies on the east-facing slopes of the Cascade Mountains along the shores of the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers.

The Wenatchee foothills form a scenic backdrop to the City of Wenatchee. Changing with every season, the landscape is valued by local residents and visitors to the community for its scenic views, trails, wild open spaces, privacy, and plethora of birds, deer, and other important plants and animals. Nestled along the edge and in the canyons of the Foothills are neighborhoods that enjoy the foothills as their backyard, valued by some for the scenery and by others for the easy proximity to trails, open space, and wildlife. The Columbia and Wenatchee Rivers bisect the planning area providing a valuable source of water for an abundance of wildlife species.



Other communities that are within service area of the City of Wenatchee include: East Wenatchee, Malaga, Rock Island, Cashmere, Monitor, Peshastin, Dryden, Orondo, Entiat and Leavenworth.

HISTORY

The Wenatchee tribe (also spelled Wenatchi) lived along the Wenatchee River, which flowed from the Cascades into the Columbia. Wahnaachee is the name given the tribe by the Yakima's, who passed it to explorer Captain William Clark in 1804. They spoke a version of the Salish language. The culture and



economy of the tribes centered on fishing, with some members gathering roots and berries and hunted game. Trappers visited the Wenatchee Valley from 1810's through the 1840's in search of beaver pelts. White settlers arrived in the Wenatchee Valley in the 1870's and 1880's. Don Carlos Corbett founded the town of Wenatchee in 1888. He named it after the tribe. As with the rest of the state, the spur to growth and development came with the arrival of the railroad. The first trail from the East arrived on October 17, 1892. The residents of Wenatchee voted for incorporation on December 23, 1892. In 1899, the State Legislature created Chelan County out of Kittitas and Okanogan counties with Wenatchee as the county seat. Cash crops could not succeed without water and the story of agriculture in Chelan County is that of irrigation. Starting in 1901, businessmen and landowners raised money for the Wenatchee Canal Company and

the Highline Canal to run 14 miles from Dryden to Wenatchee. This later became the Wenatchee Reclamation District. Wenatchee got its first electric lights in 1923 from a water-powered generator on the Squilchuck River built by druggist and schoolteacher L.V. Wells. In 1930, Washington voters approved an initiative allowing the formation of public utilities districts.



Congress created the Bonneville Power Administration in 1937 to distribute the dams' cheap and abundant electricity to publicly owned utilities.

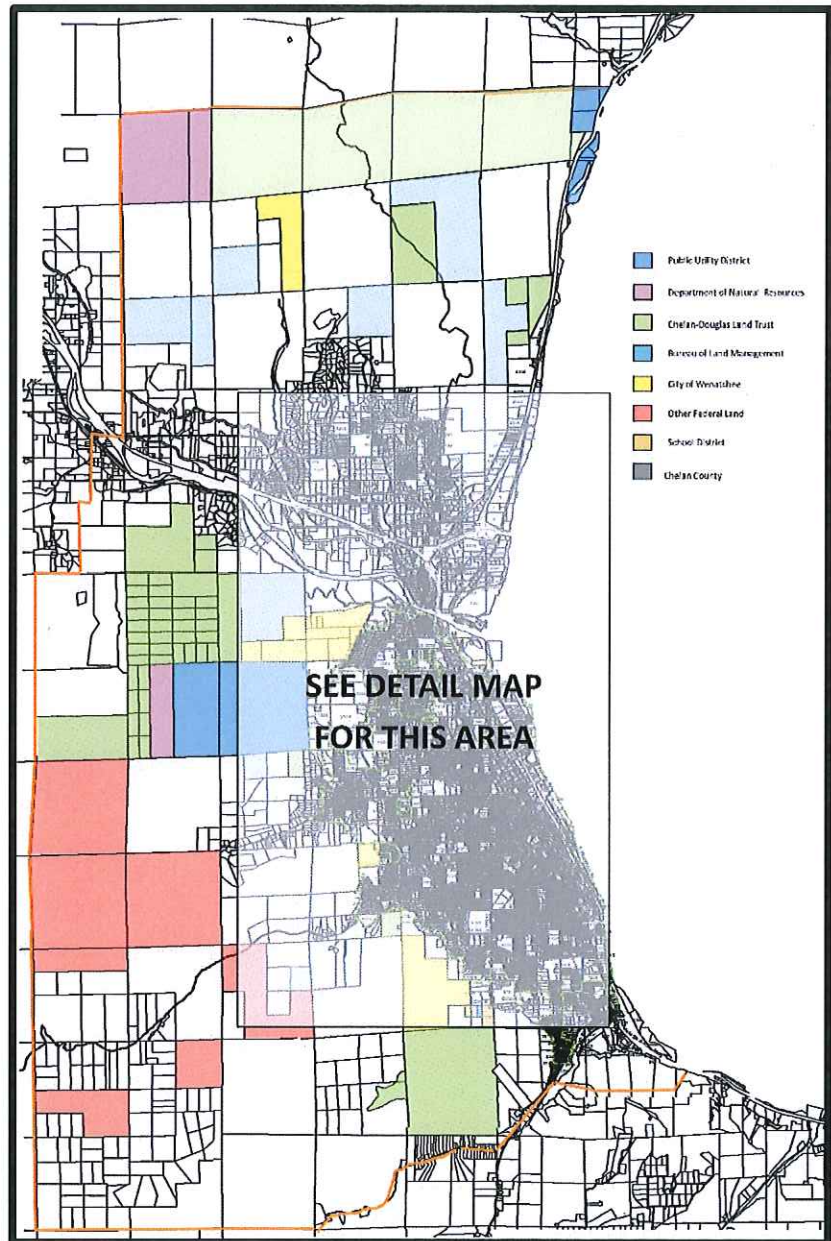
PLANNING AREA DESCRIPTION

The boundary of the planning area (orange line on map below) is defined by the shore of the Columbia River to the east, the Wenatchee foothills on the west, Squilchuck road and drainage to the South and Birch Mountain to the North.

Wenatchee is primarily a residential community that provides many opportunities and amenities for residents and visitors. Wenatchee attracts visitors and new residents each year due to the area's abundant outdoor recreation activities, natural beauty, and low-cost energy. It is an active sports community with state and regional events, boating activities, winter sports and annual festivals that draw visitors from throughout the Pacific Northwest.

The Wenatchee Valley is composed of a series of ridges and benches which are bisected by a number of drainage corridors. Over time, this has created dramatic vistas of the Wenatchee valley from the foothills of the Cascade Mountains. Wildlife corridors within publicly owned lands such as Sage Hills, Castle Rock and Saddle Rock provide areas for protection of mule deer and other common game species.

The foothills with bluffs, hills and vegetation zones lies in the transition zone of the pine and fir forests of the east Cascade Mountains and the arid, shrub-steppe desert of eastern Washington, creating a unique environment with plant and animal species from both ecosystems.



There are a number of seasonal or minor streams in the Number One Canyon, Number Two Canyon, Dry Gulch and Pitcher Canyon that drain into the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers. Located at the confluence of the Wenatchee and Columbia River and as part of Confluence State Park is the Horan Natural Area. This area provides a vegetated riparian corridor and streamside wetland coverage for wildlife habitat.

Divided by three canyons—Squilchuck, Number One, and Number Two, and the Wenatchee River—and characterized by prominent geologic formations such as Castle Rock, Saddle Rock, gulches, and rolling hills, the planning area is truly a unique landscape.

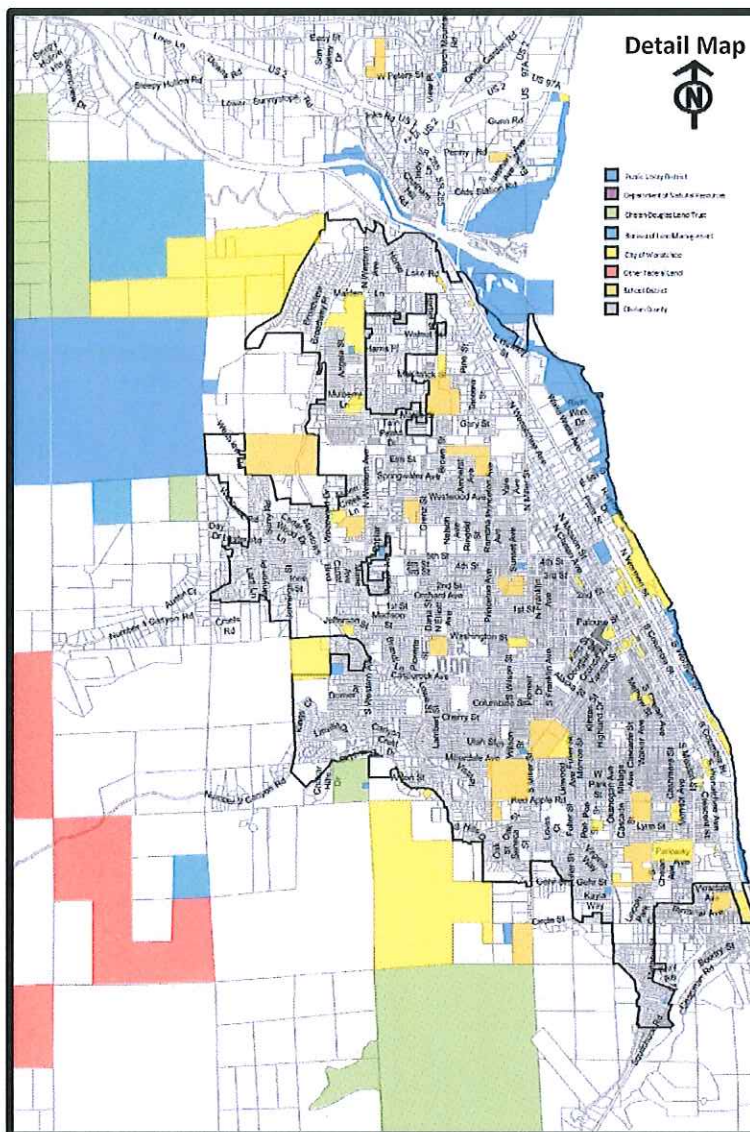
CLIMATE

Wenatchee is located on the arid eastern side of the Cascade Mountains at an elevation of about 700 feet above sea level. With four distinct seasons, and a boasting of over 300 sunshine-filled days a year as well as a snow filled winter season, the area realizes temperatures in the high 80's and low 90's in July and mean lows at 35 degrees in January. The average annual precipitation is about 9 inches with a mean growing season of 170-190 days. As the famed *Apple Capital of the World*, the climate supports a variety of fruit orchards and provides an outdoor recreation paradise.

ACCESS AND TRANSPORTATION

State Route 2 on the North and State Route 28 on the south feed into the City of Wenatchee along the main north-south Mission Street which is State Route 285. Wenatchee is a primary destination along the Stevens Pass Electric Vehicle Highway.

Link Transit bus services has intra-city and intercity routes that connects to an expanding network of on-road and off-road pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Amtrak's *Empire Builder* offers daily rail service. There are two daily westbound Northwestern Trailways intercity bus routes and a single eastbound route.



Connecting bus service in downtown Wenatchee is Columbia Station, a nationally recognized multimodal transportation center.

LAND USE AND OWNERSHIP

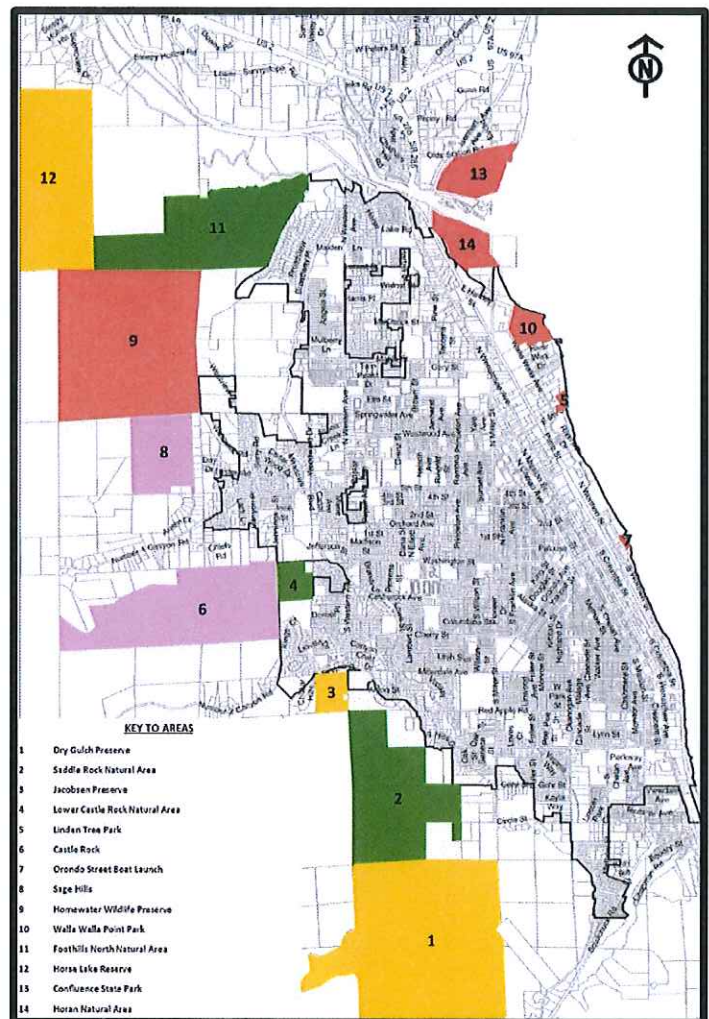
According to the Washington State Office of Financial Management, there are over 8.05 square miles of existing land within Wenatchee. 71.5% is designated as residential and slightly less than 10% is designated as commercial and 7.9% designated parks and public facilities.

Nineteen percent (3,182 acres) of this area is in public ownership, with the Bureau of Land Management and Chelan Public Utility District (PUD) owning the majority of land in public ownership. The remaining 81 percent of private land is owned by private landowners, with the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust owning nearly 2,600 acres (nearly 20 percent of the private land), primarily located in the northwest portion of the study area in the Horse Lake area.

OUTDOOR RECREATION RESOURCES

The planning area serves as an outdoor recreational Mecca for local residents and visitors. Whether heading out the backdoor for a quick hike, paddle, run, or bike ride, or making a longer trek along the spine of the Wenatchee Mountains, the area provides an easy to access, close-to-home recreational resource and economic driver for the greater Wenatchee community. Because habitat areas often serve multi functions which also provide valuable outdoor recreation opportunities, the overlapping connection between the two uses must be recognized. In recent years, The City of Wenatchee has partnered with the Chelan Douglas Land Trust and community to make a concerted effort to protect a land for both outdoor recreation and habitat purposes for current and future generations to enjoy. Whether on one of the areas rivers or on a trail in the foothills, the majority of outdoor recreation in the area occurs on lands or waters that are preserved for outdoor recreation, education and habitat.

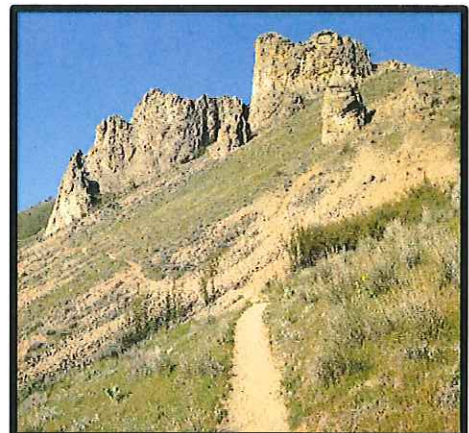
The foothills trail system has been developed over time, creating a patchwork



of formal and informal trails open to a variety of users. While some of the trails are on public land owned by the City of Wenatchee, Chelan PUD, or on quasi-public land ownership by Chelan Douglas Land Trust, many trail segments are located on private land and are only open to the public through the good graces of private landowners.

Currently there are nearly 40 miles of trails and multiple trailheads or informal access points in the planning area. Some of these trails and trailheads or access points are more formal than others, providing a higher level of management and oversight. From south to north, fourteen habitat or habitat access points are used by the public. These include:

- **Dry Gulch Preserve.** Adjacent to Saddle Rock, this area is privately owned; trails are allowed through a conservation easement held by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust.
- **Saddle Rock Natural Area.** The Saddle Rock Natural Area was acquired by the City of Wenatchee in 2010 through the receipt of a State of Washington Recreation Conservation office grant and local donations raised by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust. It is the most heavily used outdoor recreation and outdoor education area in the Wenatchee foothills with tens of thousands of visitors annually.
- **Jacobson Preserve.** This area is owned and managed by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust. The area provides hiker-only and multi-use trails.
- **Lower Castle Rock Natural Area.** The Lower Castle Rock Natural Area was acquired by the City of Wenatchee in 2014 through the receipt of a State of Washington Recreation Conservation office grant and local donations raised by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust. The Land Trust constructed a trailhead on the property in 2015 through the use of an Alcoa Foundation Grant.
- **Linden Tree Park.** Linden Tree Park is owned and operated by the Chelan County Public utility District. The park area contains a boat dock constructed specifically for non-motorized water craft which provides direct access to the Columbia River and shoreline areas.
- **Castle Rock.** Owned and maintained by a private landowner, this area provides informal trails and access to the Foothills for foot traffic only.
- **Orondo Street Boat Launch.** The boat launch is owned and operated by the Chelan County Public Utility District. With grant funding assistance from a State of Washington Recreation Conservation office grant, a boat dock was constructed in 2010. This is a primary access point for water related recreation and access to shoreline habitat areas.



- **Sage Hills.** The Sage Hills system is composed of a mix of private and public land ownerships for habitat and outdoor recreation purposes. This area provides an important north-south trail corridor to the Horse Lake Reserve. The area is closed to public access from December 1 to April 1 to protect wintering mule deer. With grant funding assistance from a State of Washington Recreation Conservation office grant, a trailhead was constructed in 2008 at Day Drive.



- **Public Utility District Homewater Wildlife Preserve.** The Homewater Preserve is owned and managed by the Chelan County PUD as a condition of their dam licensing. It is managed primarily for Mule Deer habitat and is closed to all uses from December 1 to April 1 to protect wintering mule deer.

- **Walla Walla Point Park.** Walla Walla Point Park is owned and operated by the Chelan County Public Utility District. It is one of the most visited developed parks in the Wenatchee Valley. The swimming beach provides a water access point for non-motorized water craft such as paddle boards and kayaks which is used to visit the Horan Natural Area and other shoreline habitats.



- **Foothills North Natural Area.** The properties that compose the Foothills North Natural Area were acquired by the City of Wenatchee in 2015. They adjoin the Sage Hills trail system and were acquired through funding assistance from a State of Washington Recreation Conservation office grant and donation by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust. The property is managed similar to Sage Hills with seasonal closures to protect wintering Mule Deer and other sensitive populations.
- **Horse Lake Reserve.** Owned and managed by the Chelan Douglas Land Trust, this area is open to the public through a public easement. It is closed December 1-April 1 to protect wintering mule deer. With grant funding assistance from a State of Washington Recreation Conservation office grant, a trailhead was constructed in 2008 at Horse Lake.

- **Confluence State Park.** Confluence Park is owned by the Chelan County Public Utility District but managed by Washington State Parks. It is north of the Wenatchee River and provides a boat launch for water access. It is located adjacent to the Horan Natural Area and provides direct trail access to riparian areas. The area requires fees to use.



- The 97-acre **Horan Natural Area**, is located south of the Wenatchee River in the north east portion of the planning area. It is managed by the Chelan County PUD and is an important riparian habitat area as detailed later in this section.

WLDLIFE AND HABITAT

The shrub-steppe environment in the planning area is one of limited water, hot summers, cold winters, and gusty winds. Plant communities are characterized by flowers such as balsamroot, lupine, and yarrow and common shrub-sized plants such as sagebrush and bitterbrush. Higher elevations are scattered with stands of ponderosa pine and Douglas fir, and lower elevations and draws are dotted with thickets of Douglas maple and wild cherry. Meadowlark, quail, and hawks are among the numerous birds living in the landscape along with snakes, lizards, and coyotes. Elk, big-horn sheep, turkeys and cougars are also occasionally seen in the area. During winter, mule deer depend on the lower elevations of the foothills for winter forage.

Mule Deer Winter Range

The Wenatchee foothills provide a critical source of winter forage and springtime nourishment for mule deer in the planning area. Winter is a stressful time for mule deer, testing the animal's endurance and often reducing body weight by 30 percent over the course of the season.

Hard winters, characterized by below-average temperatures, deeper snowdrifts, and later snowmelts, are especially trying for mule deer populations, often resulting in large die-offs that can threaten the viability of the larger herd. Human activity and disturbance heightens stress on mule deer in the early spring when they are at their weakest. For this reason, access to habitat with limited human disturbance and nutritious foods such as energy-rich bitterbrush can make the difference between life and death.



Chelan Public Utilities District's Home Water Wildlife Preserve—960 acres in the heart of the Sage Hills—exists to meet the winter-range needs of mule deer. While the area is open to the public for recreational use a portion of the year, its primary purpose is to serve the needs of wildlife. The area borders the Sage Hills properties to the South and Foothills North properties to the north. A map may be found in the Supplemental Information section of this plan. The Chelan Douglas Land Trust and City of Wenatchee work closely with the Public Utility District to manage recreational use occurring on the properties, observing the same seasonal closures and closing unnecessary trails.



Approximately 60 percent (9,700 acres) of the study area is considered moderate to-high suitability for mule deer winter range. Thirty-seven percent (3,580 acres) of this area is in public or protected private ownership (with a conservation easement), primarily concentrated in the Horse Lake and Saddle Rock areas. Other areas of high suitability, such as the north slopes of Number One and Number Two canyons and Fairview canyon are in private ownership.

Water Sources

While scarce, water sources are scattered throughout the foothills, providing critical nourishment for wildlife. Springs, seeps, wetlands, and areas along perennial or seasonal streams all serve an important role in providing drinking water, forage, and cover for a variety of birds, animals, and insects, composing the web of life in the foothills.

Water-related features are dispersed throughout the foothills, with a high concentration in the Horse Lake area, and along natural drainages that have been carved into the hillsides over time. Based on local knowledge and the best available data, approximately 19 natural springs, five wildlife accessible wells and four man-made troughs exist in the foothills. Ninety six acres of wetlands and 297 acres of identified riparian areas and woody draws provide additional sources of water and important habitat for wildlife. Woody draws are located within riparian areas but are generally not characterized by running water.

Over the years, man-made troughs maintained by groups such as the Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association or by public landowners such as Chelan County Public Utility District, have been developed to sustain the water needs of larger fauna such as mule deer and elk.

Aquatic/Fish Resources

The confluence of the Wenatchee and Columbia Rivers is unique among sub basins in the upper Columbia region in that it supports the greatest diversity of populations and overall abundance of salmonids. There are core populations of sockeye salmon, steelhead, bull trout and both spring and later-run chinook salmon that are relatively strong, when compared to other populations in the Columbia basin.

The Washington state Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory (SASSI) has identified four spring chinook stocks in the Wenatchee sub basin. Spring chinook and steelhead trout are listed as endangered under the ESA. SASSI has also identified the Wenatchee River late-run chinook stock. It is likely that a fall run chinook salmon once used the lower Wenatchee River to varying extent, although very little information is available to substantiate this. For the purposes of this plan, fall and summer chinook life history types will be consolidated as late-run chinook. One stock of sockeye has been identified for this sub basin as well as one summer steelhead stock, the Wenatchee summer steelhead.

Indigenous Coho salmon no longer occur in the upper Columbia River region. By the early 1900s Coho salmon populations were already decimated by lower Columbia River harvest rates, impassable dams, unscreened irrigation diversions, logging, mining, grazing, and water use practices in the tributaries. Through current and substantial efforts by the Yakama Nation, naturally reproducing Coho salmon have been reintroduced into the Columbia Cascade Province. The restoration program is generally in its infancy but the Yakama Nation and other resource managers intend to continue and expand the re-introduction effort in the Province.

Pacific lamprey is known to exist in the Wenatchee sub basin but at this time there is no empirical information to suggest population abundance or distribution.

Resident fish

A number of resident fish are present in the planning area including adfluvial, fluvial and resident forms of bull trout. The upper Columbia distinct population segment (DPS) of bull trout is listed as threatened under the federal ESA. Westslope cutthroat trout are fairly widespread within the sub basin, found mostly in the head water and higher elevation streams. Two species, the mountain sucker and Umatilla dace are Washington state priority habitat species and have state candidate listings.

Birds

The 97-acre Horan Natural Area, south of the Wenatchee River in the north east portion of the planning area, comprises one of the largest remaining black cottonwood stands on the Columbia River. This area is especially important for migrating birds, due to its location in the bottom of the Wenatchee Valley and substantial riparian and wetland habitat. Several local and state rare species have been observed and recorded here. Breeding habitat, although somewhat limited, supports several species.



Confirmed breeding species include: Wood Duck, Canada Goose, Mallard, Common Merganser, Osprey, Red-tailed Hawk, Ring-necked Pheasant, California Quail, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Wilson's Snipe, Mourning Dove, Downy Woodpecker, Western Wood-Pewee, Say's Phoebe, Western Kingbird, Eastern Kingbird, Tree Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Black-capped Chickadee, Gray Catbird, Yellow Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Song Sparrow, Black-headed Grosbeak, Red-winged Blackbird, Bullock's Oriole, House Finch, and American Goldfinch.

The Horan Natural Area is excellent for sparrows during migration and in winter. Species include: Lincoln's (often abundant in fall), Golden-crowned, White-crowned (common), White-throated (rare), Harris's (rare), Fox, American Tree, Vesper, and Savannah. Sparrows recorded only once or twice include: Baird's, Chipping, Brewer's, Clay-colored, and Lark, and also Lapland Longspur. Warbler numbers can reach extraordinary numbers, especially in late summer and early fall. Yellow-rumped (including fair numbers of Myrtle) and Orange-crowned Warblers are the most common, with Nashville, Townsend's, Wilson's, and MacGillivray's sometimes in fair numbers; Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Gray Warbler, American Redstart, Northern Waterthrush, and Yellow-breasted Chat have also been



recorded. Other passerines recorded here include Blue Jay, Purple Martin, Hermit Thrush, Veery, Rusty Blackbird, and Gray, Least, Dusky, Willow, and Olive-sided Flycatchers.

Gulls, waterfowl, waders, and shorebirds occur along the river banks, especially in the large bay between Walla Walla Point Park and Horan Natural Area. Water levels fluctuate daily with limited shorebird habitat exposed at times. Nineteen species of gulls, terns, and allies have been recorded, including Parasitic and Pomarine Jaegers; Mew, Laughing, Little, and Sabine's Gulls; and Arctic Tern. Thirty-three species of waterfowl have been recorded including Red-breasted Merganser, Long-tailed Duck, White-winged and Surf Scoters, Eurasian Wigeon (regular), both swans, Brant, and Ross's Goose. Twenty-two species of shorebirds include both dowitchers, Whimbrel, Pectoral Sandpiper, and Dunlin. Other species include Yellow-crowned Night-Heron, Red-throated Loon, Clark's Grebe, Green Heron, Cattle Egret, and American Bittern.



Bald and Golden Eagles are regular in the winter, Black Swifts are occasionally observed in late summer (often during rain), and five species of falcons have been recorded, including Peregrine, Merlin (fairly

common - two subspecies). A total of 224 species has been recorded in this area. (Seattle Audubon Society, WDFW).

The foothills host an equally diverse population of migratory and songbirds including: Brewer's sparrow, vesper sparrow, lark sparrow, meadowlark, Dusky (blue) grouse, Vaux's swifts, Lazuli bunting, eastern and western kingbird, black-headed grosbeak, yellow-breasted chat and many of those previously listed species.

Species and / or Communities with Special Status

A number of priority habitats, priority habitat features and priority wildlife species are found in the planning area. Many of the priority species rely on shoreline water bodies or riparian areas to meet certain life cycle requirements. WDFW maps do not capture every priority species location or habitat in the planning area however absence of mapping information does not indicate that a particular species does not or could not utilize the shoreline or adjacent lands.



Species and Communities With Special Status Matrix

Habitats	Status
Shrub-Steppe Habitat	PH
Mule Deer Winter Range	PH
Riparian Zones	PH
Wetlands	PH
Aspen stands	PH
Talus Slopes	PHF
Cliffs	PHF
Snag Rich areas	PHF
Birds	Status
Bald Eagle	PS, FE
Osprey	PS,
Golden Eagle	PS
Dusky Grouse	PS
Chukar	PS
Wood Duck	PS
Harlequin Duck	PS
Common Loon	PS
Trumpeter Swan	PS
Sandhill Crane	PS
Great Blue Heron	PS
Spruce Grouse	PS
Vaux's Swift	PS
Mammals	Status
Mule Deer	PS
Bighorn Sheep	PS

Mountain Goat	PS
Lynx	PS, FE
Elk	PS
Western Gray Squirrel	PS
Fisher	PS
Marten	PS
Herptiles	Status
Cascade Frog	PS
Tailed Frog	PS
Columbia Spotted Frog	PS
Western Toad	PS
Racer	PS
Great Columbia Spire Snail	PS, FESC
Fish	Status
Pacific Lamprey	PS, FSC
White Sturgeon	PS
Leopard Dace	PS, SC
Umatilla Dace	PS, SC
Mountain Sucker	PS, SC
Bull Trout	PS, FT, SC
Chinook Salmon	PS, FE, SC
Coho Salmon	PS, SC
Kokanee Salmon	PS
Pygmy Whitefish	FSC, PS, SS
Rainbow Trout	PS
Steelhead Trout	PS, FT, SC
Sockeye Salmon	PS, SC
Westslope Cutthroat Trout	PS, FC

KEY TO STATUS CODES

Priority Habitat	PH
Priority Species	PS
Priority Habitat Features	PHF
State Candidate	SC
Federal Species of Concern	FSC
Federal Endangered	FE
Federal Threatened	FT
State Sensitive	SS
Federal Candidate	FC

Other Important Habitat Areas

Along with the priority habitats there are several other habitat types of significance identified in the planning area, including the Category 2 lower Wenatchee sub-watershed, high-elevation ponderosa-pine woodlands, lower elevations of sagebrush steppe and shrub land and riparian areas. Approximately 5,160 acres of the Foothills study area includes ponderosa-pine woodlands, and 6,000 acres include sagebrush steppe or shrub land.

While not well inventoried, native plant communities thrive throughout the foothills. Some specific plants of note include the rare longsepal globemallow and wildflowers such as the arrowleaf balsamroot, silky lupine, and deathcamas. A complete list of introduced and native plants of the Foothills, completed in partnership by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Wenatchee chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society is included in the Supplemental Information section of this plan.

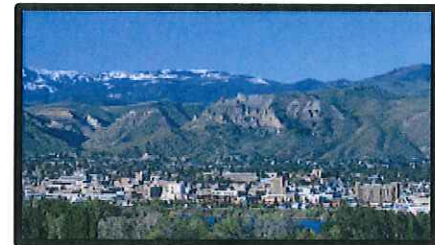


With minimal vegetation management in some areas, the foothills are especially sensitive to the spread of invasive weeds such as diffuse knapweed, Russian knapweed, and whitetop. These—and other—invasives such as milfoil, threaten to overtake native plant communities. Unmanaged recreational use facilitates the spread of these weeds throughout the Foothills.

More than 650 acres of invasive annual grasslands are located in the planning area. While these data are coarse and need to be verified, they help to illustrate the invasive weed problem.

SCENIC VIEWS

The Wenatchee foothills not only provides a scenic backdrop to the city of Wenatchee they also provide incredibly scenic vistas of the Columbia River, Wenatchee Mountains, and Wenatchee River Valley. Citizens involved throughout the public outreach process emphasized their appreciation for the visual relief and scenic views and vistas.



This “scenic backdrop” encompasses approximately 2,800 acres of the planning area and includes areas such as Saddle Rock, Castle Rock, Birch Mountain, Dry Gulch, and the Sage Hills. Of this area, approximately 40 percent is in public ownership or private ownership with a conservation easement.

HOUSING

The expected population increase of 7,060 by 2030 for the Wenatchee urban area creates an additional demand for housing. With an average size of 2.42 persons per household there is a 2,917 housing unit demand based on the “medium” Washington State Office of Financial Management estimated population forecast.

DEMOGRAPHICS

Population characteristics of a community are vital to determining local demands for facilities and programs. A review of Wenatchee’s population characteristics helps to determine what types of facilities should be developed.

Demographic characteristics – Age

AGE	QUANTITY	PERCENT
0 to 9 years	4,774	15%
10 to 19 years	4,511	14.1%
20 to 29 years	4,572	14.3%
30 to 39 years	3,894	12.2%
40 to 49 years	3,807	11.9%
50 to 59 years	4,002	12.5%
60 to 69 years	2,700	8.5%
70 to 79 years	1,854	5.8%
80 and older	1,811	5.7%

Source: 2010 U.S. Census

CURRENT AND FORECASTED POPULATION

To determine population growth projections, figures were extrapolated from the Office of Financial Management (OFM) medium estimated population forecast. The projected total includes those areas outside of the City limits of Wenatchee but within the planning area. Out of 280 cities in the State of Washington, Wenatchee is the 11th most densely populated city according to OFM statistics for 2014.

Population Forecast

	2000	2010	2020	2030
Wenatchee	27,856	31,925	35,166	38,985
Projected total	31,976	34,777	45,584	48,892
Chelan County	66,616	75,093	84,833	93,523

RACE AND ETHNICITY

Wenatchee is slightly more racially diverse than Chelan County and Washington State. In terms of ethnicity, Hispanics make up a larger percent of the population in Wenatchee than in the County or the State.

Demographic Characteristics - Race

RACE	WENATCHEE	COUNTY	STATE
White alone	77%	79%	77%
Black/African-American alone	< 1%	< 1%	4%
American Indian or Alaska Native alone	1%	1%	2%
Asian or Pacific Islander alone	1%	< 1%	7%
Other race alone	17%	16%	5%
Two or more races	3%	2%	4%
ETHNICITY	WENATCHEE	COUNTY	STATE
Hispanic/Latino (of any race)	29%	26%	11%

Source: U.S. Census, 2010.

INCOME AND EDUCATION

In 2009, 82 percent of people 25 years and over had at least graduated from high school and 24 percent had a bachelor's degree or higher. Eighteen percent were dropouts; they were not enrolled in school and had not graduated from high school.

The total school enrollment in Wenatchee was 7,000 in 2009. Nursery school and kindergarten enrollment was 830 and elementary or high school enrollment was 5,100 children. College or graduate school enrollment was 1,100.

In May 2011, full-time workers age 25 and over without a high school diploma had median weekly earnings of \$444, compared with \$633 for high school graduates (no college) and \$1,150 for those holding at least a bachelor's degree. Among college graduates with advanced degrees (professional or master's degree and above), the highest earning 10 percent of male workers made \$3,336 or more per week, compared with \$2,291 or more for their female counterparts.

The median income of households in Wenatchee was \$42,591. Seventy-one percent of the households received earnings and 18 percent received retirement income other than Social Security. Thirty-two percent of the households received Social Security. The average income from Social Security was \$13,616. These income sources are not mutually exclusive; that is, some households received income from more than one source.

Among the most common occupations were: Management, professional, and related occupations, 34 percent; Sales and office occupations, 23 percent; Service occupations, 18 percent; Production, transportation, and material moving occupations, 11 percent; and Construction, extraction, maintenance, and repair occupations, 10 percent. Seventy-five percent of the people employed were Private wage and salary workers; 18 percent was Federal, state, or local government workers; and 6 percent was Self-employed in own not incorporated business workers.

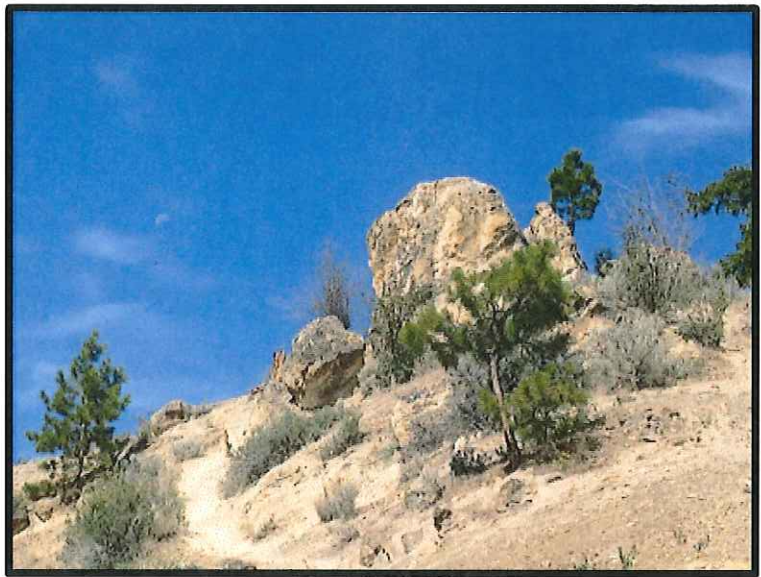
DISABILITY

In Wenatchee, among people at least five years old in 2009, 15 percent reported a disability of some kind that limited daily activities or self-care. The likelihood of having a disability varied by age - from 5 percent of people 5 to 17 years old, to 10 percent of people 18 to 64 years old, and 39.5 percent of those 65 and older.

CITY MANAGEMENT

The City operates under the strong Mayor-Council form of government. The Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department receives policy direction and advice from the City Council and their appointed advisory bodies including the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Arts Commission.





DEMAND AND NEEDS ASSESSMENT

DEMAND AND NEED METHODOLOGY

There are several approaches to estimating needs for habitat conservation and enhancement. They include the use of national standards, measurement of participation levels, user trend analysis, input from surveys and public meetings, goal setting and participation models. The following section describes each of these approaches as used in the preparation of this plan.

OVERVIEW OF NATIONAL STANDARDS

Level of service standards for parks (LOS) are one recognized method of expressing the quantity of a type of park area or amenity provided for a given amount of demand. It is simply a ratio of quantity versus demand (usually measured in numbers of people). It is commonly expressed as a number, acres of natural area or miles of trails per a given population such as 20 acres of natural areas per every 1,000 people. The most recognized standards have been those published by the National Recreation and Park Association.

Park, recreation, open space and greenway guidelines released in 1996 by the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) are based on the philosophy of a "systems approach" with community facility planning at its core. The approach revisits the 1981 standards and considers the old notion of a national standard of 10 acres of park land for every 1,000 people and is generally recognized as deficient in the current recreation and open space environment. NRPA presents an alternative premise which states that every community has its own unique blend of social and economic characteristics that define it and as such, level of service standards should be used as guidelines for evaluating the baseline adequacy of facilities in the community. All communities are different and all communities have needs and demands for parks, trails, and natural areas that vary with population and economic characteristics, as well as with local attitudes. Thus, Wenatchee's recommended standards have been customized for the community after reviewing national and local standards. A comparison of overall park systems of several eastern Washington cities was also completed to prepare standards for Wenatchee. The cities of East Wenatchee, Chelan, Yakima, Ellensburg and Moses Lake were used for comparison purposes. However, due to the high degree of variability within each community, natural open space areas could not be compared equitably.



The 2012-18 Parks, Recreation and Open Space Comprehensive Plan contains the standards (guidelines) that have been recommended for parks and recreational facilities, including natural areas for habitat protection in Wenatchee. The 6-year demand and need for these facilities is shown, based on the level of service standards. It is important to bear in mind that the suggested level of service standards are an expression of minimum acceptable standards for the citizens of Wenatchee.

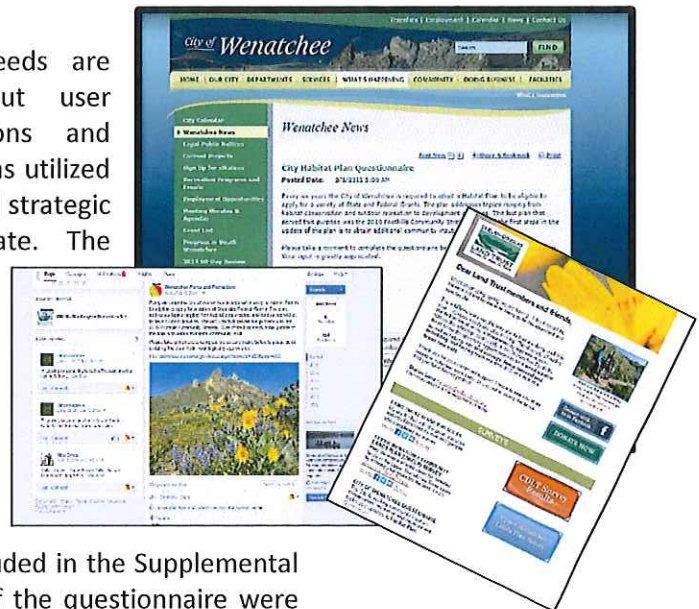
PARTICIPATION ANALYSIS

Participation level is measured in terms of the number of occasions that a particular facility or program was attended in a given period of time. The information is then compared with similar data from other time periods to determine the amount of use and participation in particular areas or activities. Because of the diversity and types of natural areas that are in the planning area and available resources to collect this type of data, participation and visitation numbers were used only anecdotally for use in the preparation of the goals and objectives in the plan.



PUBLIC OPINION SURVEYS

Using the questionnaire approach, future needs are developed from information received about user demographics, participation patterns, opinions and perceived needs. An online questionnaire tool was utilized to collect data to prepare the goals, objectives and strategic actions included in the Habitat Plan update. The questionnaire was posted on the City website and Facebook page from April 28, 2015 through May 31, 2015. It was also advertised through direct emails to those on email lists, announced through news stories on the City website and Chelan Douglas Land Trust newsletter, announced in the Wenatchee World newspaper and also during interviews on KPQ and KOHO radio. A copy of the questionnaire and tabulation of the results is included in the Supplemental Information Chapter of this plan. The results of the questionnaire were compared with those received from previous planning efforts to help determine community desires and priorities and formulate the goals and objectives contained in the plan.



PUBLIC MEETINGS

Some communities rely quite heavily on input from the general public at public meetings to assess needs. However, this approach may not reflect the true community need and should be used as a part of a larger data collection tool. By filling the room with their supporters, input from special interest groups has the potential to overwhelm the results which often times may not necessarily represent the true interest of the community.

The update of the Habitat Plan was the main agenda topic during eight Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meetings from April 2015 to November 2015 and also a City Council workshop in October 2015 and regular meeting in November 2015. The meetings were advertised in the Wenatchee World, the City

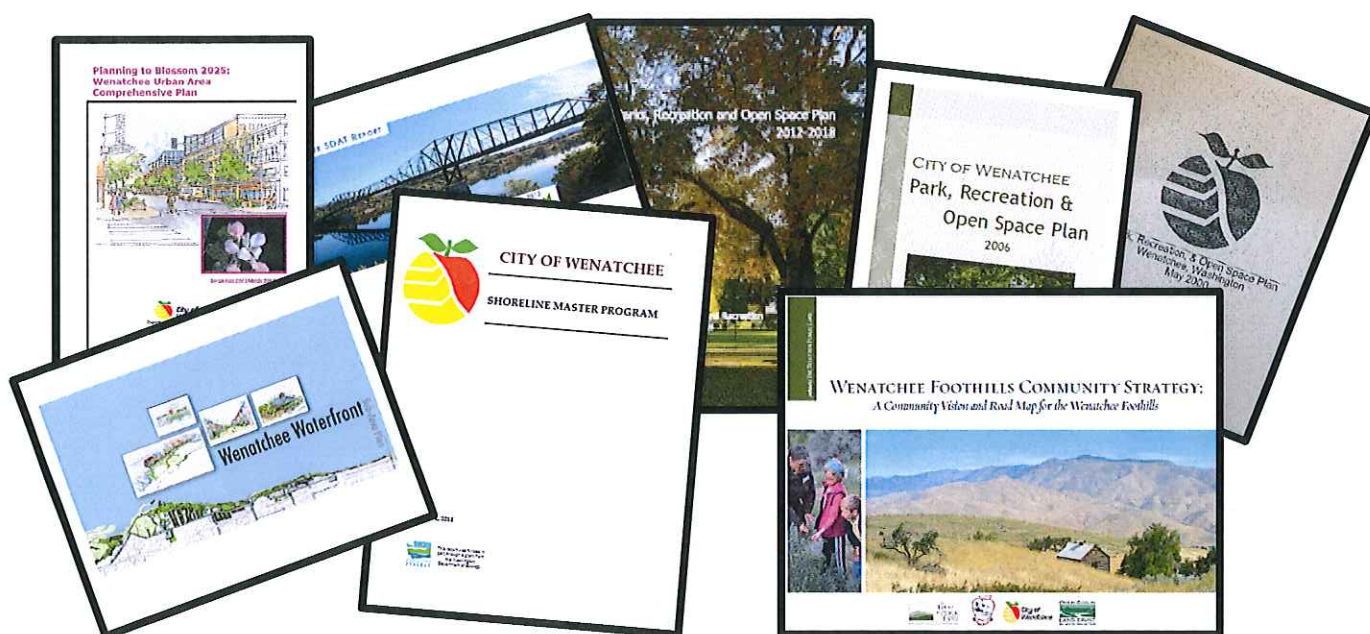
website, departmental Facebook page and local radio stations. They were open to the public and broadcast on cable channel 98. Comments received during the meetings were taken into consideration in preparation of the goals and objectives section of the plan. In general terms, they were reflective of the comments received from the community wide questionnaire and were supportive of the efforts to implement the previous plan and the continued planning efforts.

INTEGRATION WITH OTHER PLANNING DOCUMENTS

Documents and studies that influence habitat areas, natural spaces, outdoor recreation facilities and programs within the planning area were reviewed for policies, guidelines, and to gather information that would be relevant to the Habitat Plan. Goals and objectives that had yet to be implemented but were still desired based upon comments received through the current planning process were carried forward into the goals and objectives section of this plan. The following documents were reviewed (in chronological order of adoption date):

- City of Wenatchee Shoreline Master Program, 2014.
- Planning to Blossom 2025: Wenatchee Urban Area Comprehensive Plan, 2014.
- City of Wenatchee Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, 2012.
- Wenatchee SDAT Report, Imagine South Wenatchee, 2012.
- Foothills Community Strategy, 2010.
- Chelan County Comprehensive Parks and Recreation Plan, 2007.
- Foothills Trail Plan, 2007.
- City of Wenatchee Park, Recreation and Open Space Plan, 2006.
- Wenatchee Waterfront Sub Area Plan, 2003.
- City of Wenatchee, Parks Recreation and Open Space Plan, 2000.

Archival documents from such as Parks and Recreation Advisory Board meeting minutes, newspaper articles, project files and correspondence from 1953 to present were also reviewed for applicability.





GUIDING FRAMEWORK

CITY VISION STATEMENT

The City of Wenatchee's vision is to create community through responsive leadership and services for the citizens and visitors of the Apple Capital of the World.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT VISION

Within the overall framework of the City, the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department strives to accomplish the supporting vision of collaborating with partner organizations to provide innovative and high-value parks, facilities, programs and services that promote an engaged and healthy community.

PARKS, RECREATION AND CULTURAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT MISSION

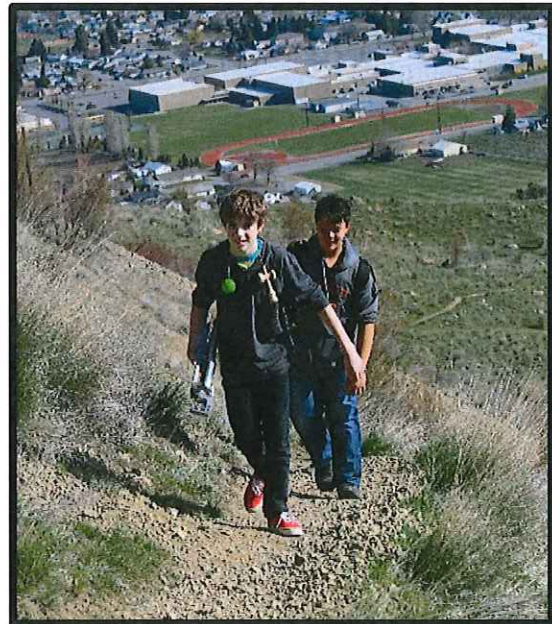
The mission of the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department is to build a great community through it's people, parks, and programs. The mission reflects two overarching principles. First, the community is the owner of the Department's programs and facilities. The second is a commitment to managing and expanding the community's parks and recreation resources, including conservation of natural resources and support for the City's economic vitality. The result is the Department's consistent efforts to create a great community—one that is vibrant, healthy, and strong.



COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

Realization of the department's vision may be seen in the outcome areas of:

- Strengthening community image and sense of place
- Supporting economic development
- Fostering human development
- Protecting environmental resources
- Facilitating community problem solving
- Promoting health and wellness
- Increasing cultural unity
- Providing recreational experiences
- Increasing self-esteem and self-reliance



VISION FOR THE HABITAT PLAN

The community's long-term vision for the Habitat Plan provides a foundation for the goals, objectives and strategic actions. The following are the key points of the vision:

- Habitat areas in and around Wenatchee are a well-managed community resource that provide an extensive network of trails, trailheads, and access points as well as scenic views and vistas for the public to enjoy.
- The landscape is home to healthy wildlife populations supported by a diversity of native plants and natural lands.
- There is well-planned development that accentuates the natural character of the landscape.
- The community is informed, active, and involved in land management, education and planning decisions, and a broad network of citizen groups, public agencies, and private organizations work together to realize the vision.



GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

To aid in planning and help provide direction, numbered goals, objectives (PRO) and strategic actions (SA) were developed in the planning process. The goals, objectives and strategic actions were derived using the results of the community questionnaire process, data from previous planning efforts and comments received from professional staff, agency representatives and the general public.

The goals for fall into four major areas: Development; Wildlife, Habitat, and Open Space; Recreational Use and Management; and Community Support, Education and Involvement. Although the primary focus of the Habitat Plan involves wildlife, habitat, and open space, the other goal areas impact not only how the habitats are preserved, protected and managed, but also how they are viewed, accessed and supported by the community and are thus important elements of the plan. Objectives form the basis for decisions by the City Council, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. In turn, a number of relevant strategic actions are provided for each objective as indicators of progress in the implementation of this plan. As noted earlier, this is a living document that provides the framework for the six-year plan.

GOAL 1: DEVELOPMENT

Guide development to appropriate areas to minimize conflict while adequately meeting the needs of the growing community.



- PRO 1.0** Encourage “green” building techniques in the natural and developed environments to create a sustainable urban community.

- SA 1.0.1** Create informational documents with green building methods and local resources to aid new development in utilizing “green” techniques.

- PRO 1.1** Encourage infill and growth in minimum conflict areas at lower elevations surrounding the foothills through incentive-based programs.

- SA 1.1.1** Investigate the feasibility of implementing a Transfer of Development Rights Program with Chelan County.

- PRO 1.2** Protect the natural integrity and function of steep slopes, drainages and other areas to minimize risks to community health and safety.

- SA 1.2.1** Review and revise where necessary City critical area standards to direct growth to appropriate areas, emphasizing the protection of steep slopes and the maintenance or enhancement of critical area functions and values.

- PRO 1.3** Implement development strategies and interagency agreements to minimize risks to community health and safety from wildland fires.



- SA 1.3.1** Require the provision of wild land fire protection routes and defensible space requirements in new development in the urban interface zone.

- PRO 1.4** Support the expansion of infrastructure to meet growth demands in appropriate areas and to protect community and environmental health and safety.

- SA 1.4.1** Require new subdivisions and development near the foothills to provide access points and connections to the foothills trail system in accordance with the Foothills Trails Plan.

- SA 1.4.2** Encourage the use of clustered development and other innovative designs that aim to preserve the functions of critical areas and further public safety.

SA 1.4.3 Ensure development in designated critical areas adequately mitigates potential negative impacts associated with the specific conditions.

SA 1.4.4 Review critical area designations and associated development regulations for accuracy, effectiveness, and utilization of best available science.

GOAL 2: WILDLIFE, HABITAT, AND OPEN SPACE

Conserve a diversity and abundance of wildlife, habitat, and open-space features important to the ecological health of the area.



PRO 2.0 Place priority on maximizing grants, alternative sources of funding, and inter-agency cooperative arrangements to develop the natural area system.

SA 2.0.1 Work to secure long-term dedicated funding sources for the acquisition, development, operations and maintenance of natural areas through annual budgeting, state and federal grants, matching funds, bonds, levies, donations, conservation easements, or creative site planning.

SA 2.0.2 Investigate property transfer incentives for land donations or conservation easements, especially for open space and trails.

SA 2.0.3 Collaborate with other public agencies and private non-profit conservation trusts, pursue federal and state grants to acquire and protect open spaces, wildlife habitats and corridor connections to state and federal lands.

SA 2.0.4 Conserve critical habitat areas using a combination of incentives, best design practices, education, and regulations.

PRO 2.1 Formalize plans, policies and procedures for the acquisition, development and management of open space, recreation, access and habitat areas.

SA 2.1.1 Establish policies and procedures for the acquisition of lands for open space, recreation and conservation, and purposes.

SA 2.1.2 Review parks and recreation design standards and development policies on an annual basis.

SA 2.1.3 Prepare and adopt natural resource management plans for specific natural areas.

SA 2.1.4 Identify important native plant, wildlife habitat, and noxious weed areas and prepare policies to address each.

SA 2.1.5 Future land use planning should seek to integrate emergency access and protection zones for wild fire response.

SA 2.1.6 Prepare a comprehensive preventive maintenance plan, which incorporates a preventative program for each area that includes regularly scheduled systematic inspections and detailed safety checks.

SA 2.1.7 Prepare written, environmentally sound policies and procedures that are integral to all operations.

SA 2.1.9 Identify and designate appropriate areas along the foothills as critical wildlife areas, providing additional protection measure with use supported by best available sciences.



SA 2.1.10 Utilize best available science in developing policies and development regulations to protect the functions and values of critical areas.

SA 2.1.11 Develop written procedures for the assignment of personnel with clearly defined duties for routine maintenance, repairs and minor improvements, general cleanliness and overall attractiveness of areas, facilities, and equipment.

SA 2.1.12 Prepare risk management plans for each area and review it on a regular basis which encompasses analysis of risk exposure, control approaches and financial impacts.

SA 2.1.13 Prepare and implement a fire management program for habitat areas that includes a fire fuels reduction strategy and the establishment of appropriate fuel breaks.



PRO 2.2

Place a priority on the revitalization, restoration and improvement of existing natural areas, trails and access points to prevent further degradation of critical habitat areas, improve sustainability and enhance flora and fauna.

SA 2.2.1

Ensure that areas are used, operated, and maintained in a manner that is consistent with site-specific and regional natural systems.

SA 2.2.2

Provide staffing to keep pace with demands of the parks system and desires of the community.

SA 2.2.3

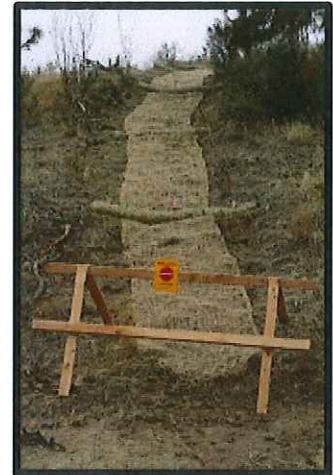
Work with local non-profit agencies and other local organizations to coordinate restoration and enhancement activities.

SA 2.2.4

Seek out grants, donations and volunteers to assist with restoration efforts.

SA 2.2.5

Special priority should be given to conservation or protection measures necessary to preserve or enhance priority threatened or endangered species and habitats.



PRO 2.3

Acquire natural areas, open spaces, access points and trails that are needed, locally unique in character, provide important wildlife or other habitat purposes, interconnected, inclusive, accessible and financially feasible to maintain.

SA 2.3.1

Acquire natural and open space areas to meet the level of service standard contained in the Comprehensive Plan.

SA 2.3.2

Retain and protect as open space areas that provide essential habitat for rare, threatened or endangered plant or wildlife species.

SA 2.3.3

Retain and protect as open space areas that provide habitat for fish and wildlife species, may serve as a corridor for wildlife movement, and may include and encourage public use for wildlife interpretation and observation.

SA 2.3.4

Retain and protect as open space areas having a unique combination of open space values, including: separation or buffering between incompatible land uses; visual delineation of the City or a distinct area or neighborhood of the City; floodwater or storm water storage; storm water purification; recreational value; aesthetic value; and educational value.

SA 2.3.5 Acquire shoreline property when it meets current and future needs for public recreation access.

SA 2.3.6 Work with local public, private and non-profit trails supporters to seek and obtain local, state and federal funds to acquire and develop park facilities that broaden the trail opportunities and provide trailheads to local and regional trail links.

SA 2.3.7 Place priority on protecting and restoring habitat functions and connectivity in sub watersheds ecosystems in

PRO 2.4 Develop partnerships with other public agencies and the private sector to meet the demand for habitat protection, and recreation.

SA 2.4.1 Conduct regular meeting with public agencies, non-profit organizations and the private sector to improve coordination and collaboration to facilitate habitat protection and restoration efforts.

SA 2.4.2 Develop a working relationship with regional, state, and federal agencies as well as non-governmental service providers that impact the services within their jurisdiction and define the role of staff through documentation of involvement in state federal and non-governmental agencies planning.

SA 2.4.3 Partner with the Port of Chelan County, the Chelan PUD, Washington State Parks and regional supporters to implement the Upper Columbia River Water Trail.

SA 2.4.4 Begin conversations with the Wenatchee Reclamation District, Chelan County and the adjacent private landowners to establish a working group to investigate and plan for future use of the irrigation canals as a linier greenbelt with public walking access and interpretive signage.


GOAL 3: RECREATIONAL USE AND MANAGEMENT

Provide a sustainable system of trails, access points and amenities that supports multiple recreational uses now and into the future.

PRO 3.1 Build local capacity through funding and staffing to manage and develop a sustainable system of trails and amenities.

SA 3.1.1 Explore the formation of a metropolitan park district or other entity to provide dedicated funding source for the management and operation of habitat areas.



- SA 3.1.2** Pursue state, federal and local grant opportunities.
- SA 3.1.3** Enhance the volunteer program to provide natural area ambassadors and stewards.
- PRO 3.2** Improve management and oversight of the existing trail system.
- SA 3.2.1** Provide staffing to keep pace with demands of the parks system and desires of the community.
- SA 3.2.2** Conduct regular meetings and work with local non-profit agencies and other local organizations to coordinate maintenance and management activities.
- PRO 3.3** Build community awareness of trail issues, etiquette, and user responsibilities.
- SA 3.3.1** Distribute press releases through local media, Facebook page and other outlets.
- SA 3.3.2** Seek out funding and provide educational signs at strategic locations designed to inform trail users of expectations.
- SA 3.3.3** Provide information to potential users through participation in local fairs, assemblies and contacts with user groups.
- 
- PRO 3.4** Reduce and minimize user conflicts in recreational areas used by the public.
- SA 3.4.1** Increase educational efforts to improve understanding.
- SA 3.4.2** Design trail corridors and amenities to separate uses where possible to reduce conflicts.
- PRO 3.5** Expand trail system in appropriate areas to meet user demand and improve connectivity between existing areas used by the public.
- SA 3.5.1** Seek out and obtain grant funding to acquire and develop properties for trail purposes.
- SA 3.5.2** Partner with local agencies and non-profit organizations to construct and manage new sustainable trails and decommission unsustainable trails to meet or exceed the level of service standard in the Comprehensive Plan.
- SA 3.5.3** Develop viewpoints where the topography prevents direct access to provide visual access to the water.

PRO 3.6 Where terrain and conditions permit public access, work in partnership with the development community to provide opportunities for trail connections and access points.

PRO 3.7 Create a comprehensive system of sustainable, multipurpose trails using alignments through public landholdings as well as cooperating private properties where appropriate.

SA 3.7.1 Seek out agreements with utility providers for the use of easements for trail and trailhead purposes.



PRO 3.8 Link residential neighborhoods to trails and trailhead facilities through bike and pedestrian routes.

PRO 3.9 Develop trail and trailhead improvements of a design and development standard that is easy to maintain and access by maintenance, security, and other appropriate personnel, equipment, and vehicles.

SA 3.9.1 Furnish trail systems with appropriate supporting trailhead improvements that include interpretive and directory signage systems, rest stops, drinking fountains, restrooms, parking and loading areas, water and other services.

SA 3.9.2 Take advantage of opportunities for development of waterfront links, access improvements, shoreline restoration and river related activities.

SA 3.9.3 Where appropriate, locate trailheads at or in conjunction with park sites, schools, and other community facilities to increase local area access to the trail system, gain efficiency in maintenance and reduce duplication of supporting improvements.

GOAL 4: COMMUNITY SUPPORT, EDUCATION AND INVOLVEMENT

Build community understanding, awareness, support, and involvement in environmental education and habitat related matters to further community investment in and stewardship of natural resources.

PRO 4.1 Foster a community that values, understands, and protects our environment, thereby sustaining a healthy and desirable place to live.

- SA 4.1.1** Participate in education and involvement programs that raise public awareness about environmental issues, advocate respect for the environment, and demonstrate how individual and cumulative actions directly affect our surroundings.



- SA 4.1.2** Promote local education programs, environmental processes and etiquette and information-sharing opportunities to foster a better understanding of natural resources.
- SA 4.1.3** Work in cooperation with other public agencies, local organizations, associations, departments, and groups in creating and carrying out environmentally related programs and outreach efforts.
- SA 4.1.4** Pursue grants that will aid in creating a more sustainable and healthy community.
- SA 4.1.5** Explore the feasibility of developing local sources of private and public funding to support conservation and recreation activities.
- SA 4.1.6** Utilize social media, the city web site, free and paid advertisements.
- SA 4.1.7** Market and promote environmental education, habitat and trail use information and the Benefits of Parks and Recreation to residents and visitors of the community to increase awareness, donations, tourism and participation.

- PRO 4.2** Promote open lines of communication to staff and both internal and external customers through a variety of methods including written, meetings and other means.

- SA 4.2.1** Designate a specific position within the Department to direct the public information and community relations functions.
- SA 4.2.2** Establish a community relations plan.
- SA 4.2.3** Prepare and provide educational materials regarding wild land fire, interacting with wild life, noxious weeds and other information designed specifically for those living and visiting the urban interface zone.

PRO 4.3 Ensure that volunteer and staff efforts are recognized and appreciated.

SA 4.3.1 Develop and implement a formalized a volunteer recognition program.

PRO 4.4 Strengthen relationships within community groups and organizations.

SA 4.4.1 Formalize relationships with other community organizations that outlines roles and responsibilities.

PRO 4.5 Fostering environmental awareness in City departments by purchasing environmentally sensitive products, and promoting energy and water conservation, proper waste management and environmentally responsible modes of transportation.

SA 4.5.1 Establish an environmental sustainability policy that addresses energy conservation, environmentally preferable purchasing, water conservation/quality protection and sustainable design/construction of amenities.





IMPLEMENTATION

INTRODUCTION

The community's long-term vision, goals, and strategies incorporated in the Habitat Plan can only become a reality with the implementation of a realistic approach that establishes priority actions to be completed over time. This chapter provides that road map, by including the following elements:

- **Prioritization.** This section provides rationale to aid in ranking and assisting with the strategic decision making process by establishing criteria against which each project is rated.
- **Capital Improvement Plan.** The capital improvement plan outlines specific capital improvements necessary to create the park and open space system reflected in the community's vision for the landscape.
- **Possible Funding Options.** The summary of funding sources provides a realistic overview of the best available options for funding the priority actions and projects presented in this plan. Some of these sources are limited to particular types of projects or programs, others are more general and may be applied to projects. Jurisdictions like Wenatchee should not rely entirely on any one source for all their funding. Instead, the sources should be used together to achieve the broad goals of the plan. The listing is not intended to be "all-inclusive" as the timing and availability of funding within grant programs vary and there are many other sources which may be available.



PRIORITIZATION

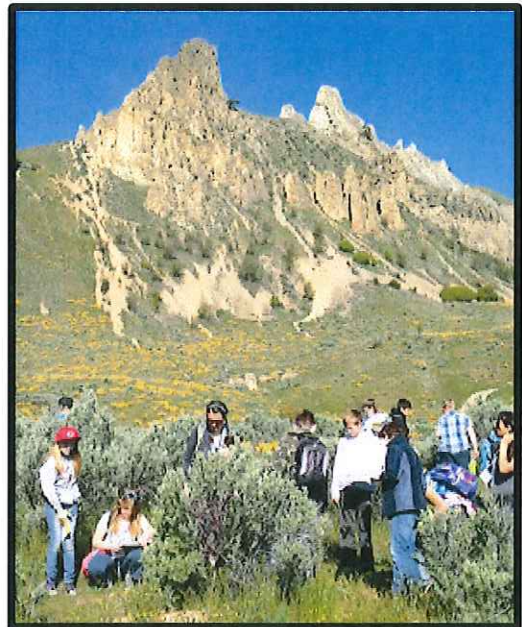
This section aims to aid in comparison and strategic decision making by establishing criteria against which each project is rated. As some criteria are more important to the community than others, the scores under each are weighted to reflect relative value.

RATING CRITERIA

The following criteria create the basic framework for measuring specific projects identified in this plan. Under each criterion, each project was scored on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being the best. That score was then multiplied by the criterion's weight, resulting in a weighted score for that particular criterion. The weighted scores were then summed, creating a total weighted score for each project. This allowed the project to be prioritized according to their total score and programmed over upcoming budget years.

- **Resident Priority** – The extent to which the project is supported by the community's expressed arts and culture preferences. Weight = 3.
- **Cost Efficiency** – The extent to which the project produces the highest cost/benefit ratio. Weight = 2.

- **Community Engagement** - The extent to which the proposed project involves or may be viewed by a large segment of the population. Weight = 2.
- **Habitat Preservation or Enhancement** – The extent to which the project will protect or preserve critical habitat areas. Weight = 3.
- **Function and Multiple Use** – The extent to which the project will serve multiple uses and improve the function of the area. Weight = 2.
- **Tourism, Economic Development and Outdoor Recreation** – The extent to which the project attracts visitors to the community, creates a “place” or provides outdoor recreation opportunities. Weight = 2.
- **Aesthetics** – The extent to which the project improves the appearance of the facility or area. Weight = 1.
- **Level of Service** – The extent to which the project helps to satisfy levels of service or underserved areas. Weight = 1.



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A six-year capital improvement plan (CIP) is included below which details the proposed projects to support the vision, goals, strategies, and actions set forth in this plan. The CIP provides an approximate timeline, cost, and funding source for a variety of acquisition, development, and renovation/restoration projects. It includes a variety of proposed land acquisitions and enhancement, restoration, and renovation projects recommended for completion over the next six years and beyond. In many cases the projects listed have

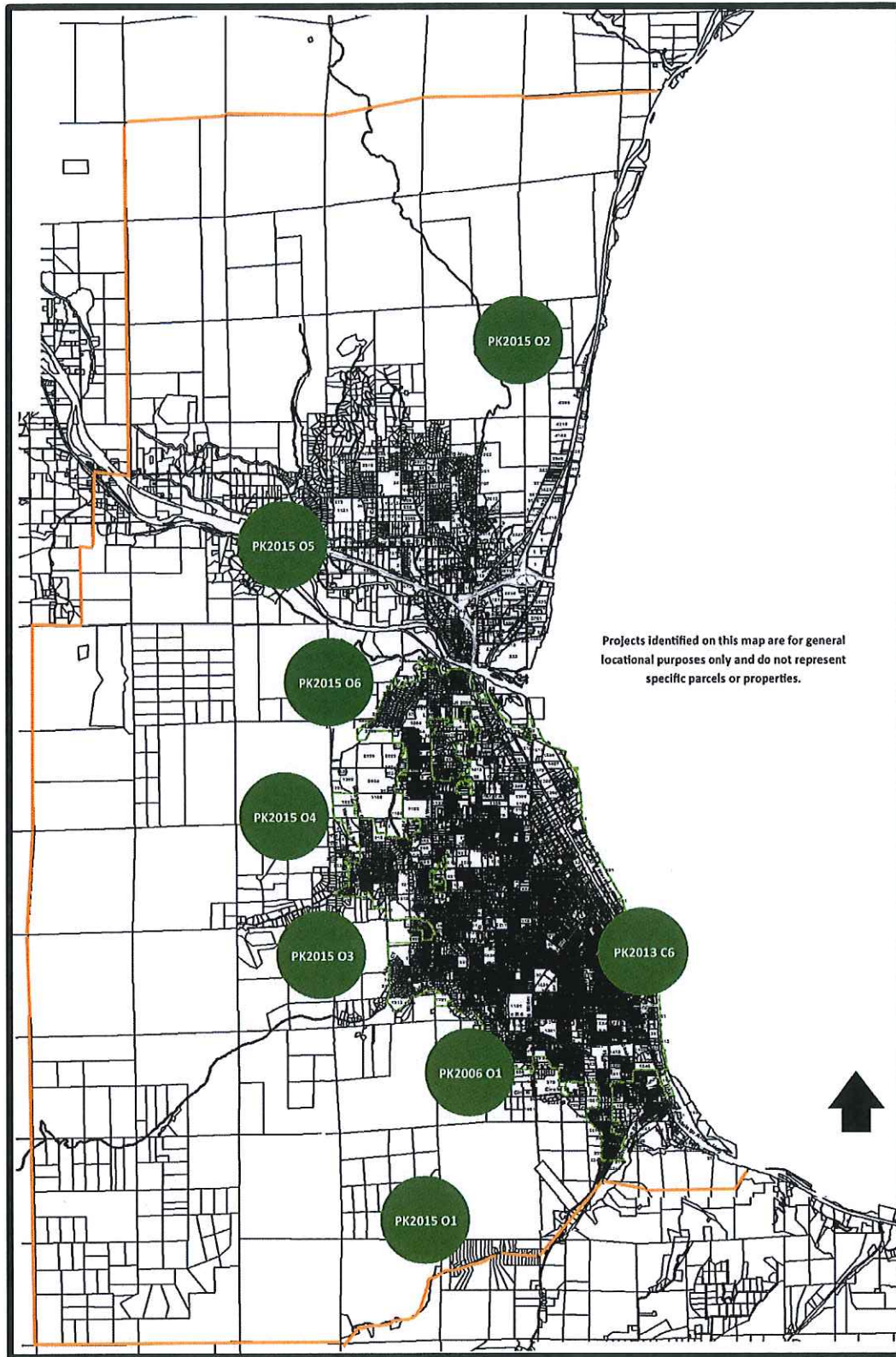
been captured in other adopted plans and represent a high priority for implementation. Project costs and timelines are estimated based on the best available knowledge at this point in time.



The plan is designed to be flexible to take advantage of once-in-a-lifetime opportunities and capitalize on unforeseen opportunities that meet the vision and values of this plan.

The CIP meets the requirements of the Washington State Recreation and Conservation Office and GMA, and CIP projects should be considered a part of any comprehensive plan that adopts this document.

Capital Improvement Plan Map



Capital Improvement Plan Summary

Project Rank	Project Number	Project Name	Location	Estimated Cost	Target Year
1	PK2006 O1	Saddle Rock Habitat Restoration	Saddle Rock	\$1,500,000	2017
2	PK2015 O4	Sage Hills Gateway Acquisition	Central Foothills	\$510,000	2016
3	PK2015 O3	Castle Rock Acquisition	Castle Rock	\$1,000,000	2019
4	PK2015 O2	Birch Mountain Area Acquisition	Birch Mountain	\$750,000	2021
5	PK2013 C6	Hale Park Habitat Restoration/Enhancement	Hale Park	\$60,000	2018
6	PK2015 O1	South Foothills Area Acquisition	Squilchuck	\$750,000	2020
7	PK2015 O5	Wenatchee River Access Acquisition	Wenatchee River	\$1,300,000	2022
8	PK2015 O6	Foothills North Habitat Enhancement	Foothills North	\$120,000	2018
		TOTAL		\$6,740,000	

POSSIBLE FUNDING SOURCES

The City must rely on a broad approach to funding the projects included in this plan. It is highly unlikely that the general fund and grants will be able to support both one time and ongoing programs, services and facilities.

There are a wide variety of mechanisms available to Parks, Recreation and Cultural Service agencies to provide funding for maintenance and operations, acquisition, program services and capital construction. By maximizing the use of all of the revenue options that are available, ballot campaigns may be more effectively run. The following is intended to serve as an introduction to these mechanisms and the areas that they might be used.

REAL ESTATE EXCISE TAX

The State of Washington is authorized to levy a real estate excise tax on all sales of real estate, measured by the full selling price, including the amount of any liens, mortgages and other debts given to secure the purchase at a rate of 1.28 percent. RCW 82.45.060. A locally-imposed tax is also authorized. However, the rate at which it can be levied and the uses to which it may be put differs by city size and whether the city is planning under the Growth Management Act (GMA). All cities may levy a quarter percent tax (described as "the first quarter percent of the real estate excise tax" or "REET 1"). RCW 82.46.010. Cities and counties that are planning under GMA have the authority to levy a second quarter percent tax (REET 2). RCW 82.46.035(2). Note that this statute specifies that if a county is required to plan under GMA, or if a city is located in such a county, the tax may be levied by a vote of the legislative body. If, however, the county chooses to plan under GMA, the tax must be approved by a majority of the voters.

The City must spend the first quarter percent of their real estate excise tax receipts solely on capital projects that are listed in the capital facilities plan element of their comprehensive plan. RCW 82.46.010(2)(6). RCW 82.46.010(6) defines "capital projects" as:

Those public works projects of a local government for **planning, acquisition, construction, reconstruction, repair, replacement, rehabilitation, or improvement** of streets; roads; highways; sidewalks; street and road lighting systems; traffic signals; bridges; domestic water systems; storm and sanitary sewer systems; **parks; recreational facilities;** law enforcement facilities; fire protection facilities; trails; libraries; administrative and judicial facilities.

REET 2 must be spent solely on public works related projects – streets, sewers etc. and is not available for park projects.

Uses: Capital Construction and Acquisition. (Identified in the City Capital Plan).

LEVY LID LIFT

With the passage of Initiative 747, there only two ways for a jurisdiction to increase property taxes by more than one percent (or the lesser of the IPD and one percent for jurisdictions with a population of 10,000 or more). Some jurisdictions have taken less than the maximum increase they could have in the past and have "banked" capacity that they can use.

The other way to increase property taxes by more than this amount is to do a levy lid lift under RCW 84.55.050.

Some of the benefits of this type of funding include: Can be permanent or for specific time period and people are generally familiar with a levy lid lift. It also gives voters the opportunity to "approve" or "reject" a project.

Some of the negatives associated with this type of funding are that it is generally used for a specific time period – 6 years so unless it is a project specific purpose, a campaign would need to be run again at the end of the time period. This option would potentially restrict tax availability for other uses such as Police, Roads etc. This option directly raises taxes and requires 60% plus 1 for approval.

If this is a desired option to pursue for future funding, it is recommended that a citizen led campaign be started a minimum of one and a half to two years prior to the election. Staff is very limited in the role it can play in this type of election. Specific programs and projects must be identified for the campaign.

Uses: Capital Construction and Acquisition, Maintenance and Operations.

BONDS

Just as people need money, so do governments. Government needs money for everything from infrastructure to social programs. The problem large organizations run into is that they typically need far more money than the average bank can provide. A solution is to raise money by issuing bonds (or other debt instruments) to a public market. Thousands of investors then each lend a portion of the capital needed. Really, a bond is nothing more than a loan for which you are the lender. The organization that sells a bond is known as the issuer. You can think of a bond as an IOU given by a borrower (the issuer) to a lender (the investor). Just like any other bank loan, you pay the bond back over time with interest.

General Obligation Bond – Property tax for the sale of construction bonds. The tax assessment can be levied up to 30 years. Requires a 60% majority approval of 40% of the voters who voted at the last election.

Revenue Bonds – Revenue from the operation of the facility pays for the capital and cost debt services. Does not require a vote of the people unless required by local ordinance.

Councilmatic Bonds – Bonds that can be issues by the City Council. Does not require a vote of the people but must be paid out of the City's annual operating budget.

Uses: Capital Construction and Acquisition.

GENERAL FUND

The general fund includes all monies taken in and paid out of the City with the exception of any special purpose funds. The two primary revenue streams are from the collection of sales tax and property tax. The general fund currently provides the majority of financial support for the ongoing operation of the park system and provision of recreations services.

Uses: Maintenance and Operations, and Acquisition.

METROPOLITAN PARK DISTRICT

Chapter 98, Laws of 1907 authorized cities of the first class to create metropolitan park districts (MPD). The statutes were amended by Chapter 88, Laws of 2002. Prior to 2002, cities under 5,000 and counties could not create metropolitan park districts. Now all cities and counties may form metropolitan park districts (MPDs) that include territory in portions of one or more cities or counties. The first MPD was formed by Tacoma in 1907. A second district was formed in Yakima around 1945 and functioned until 1969. After the 2002 amendments several MPD's were formed.

The purpose of a MPD is to provide for the management, control, improvement, maintenance, and acquisition of parks, parkways, boulevards, and recreational facilities. A MPD:

- May purchase, acquire and condemn lands within or without the boundaries of park district
- May issue and sell warrants, short- term obligations, or general obligation bonds
- May issue general obligation debt in an amount equal to 2 1/2 percent of their assessed valuations. (RCW 35.61.110) Of this 2 1/2 percent, 1/4 percent may be non-voted (also called councilmanic) debt. (RCW 35.61.100) The rest must be voted.
- May issue revenue bonds
- Can petition for the creation of local improvement districts
- May employ counsel, provide for park police officers, secretary of the board, and all necessary employees
- May establish civil service for employees
- Has power to regulate, manage and control, improve, acquire, extend and maintain, open and lay out, parks, parkways, boulevards, avenues, aviation landings and playgrounds, within or without the park district,
- Has power to authorize, conduct and manage
 - the letting of boats, or other amusement apparatus,
 - the operation of bath houses,
 - the purchase and sale of foodstuffs or other merchandise,
 - the giving of vocal or instrumental concerts or other entertainments,
 - the management and conduct of such forms of recreation or business as it shall judge desirable or beneficial for the public, or for the production of revenue for expenditure for park purposes;
- May sell, exchange, or otherwise dispose of surplus property
- Can annex territory

An MPD may include territory located in portions or all of one or more cities or counties, or one or more cities and counties, when created or enlarged.

It can be initiated by petition of at least 15 percent of the registered property owners in the area and submitted to the county auditor of each county in which all or a portion of the proposed district would be located. *(RCW 35.61.020 or it can be initiated by a resolution of the governing body or bodies of each city and/or county which includes a portion or all of the area in the district.*

Passage approving the MPD ballot measure requires approval by a majority of the voters voting. (RCW 35.61.040)

Two regular property tax levies available - 50 cents/\$1000 assessed valuation and one of 25 cents. They are considered one levy for the purposes of the levy limits in Ch.84.55 RCW, but they have different rankings in the pro-rationing statute. **Levy is permanent.**

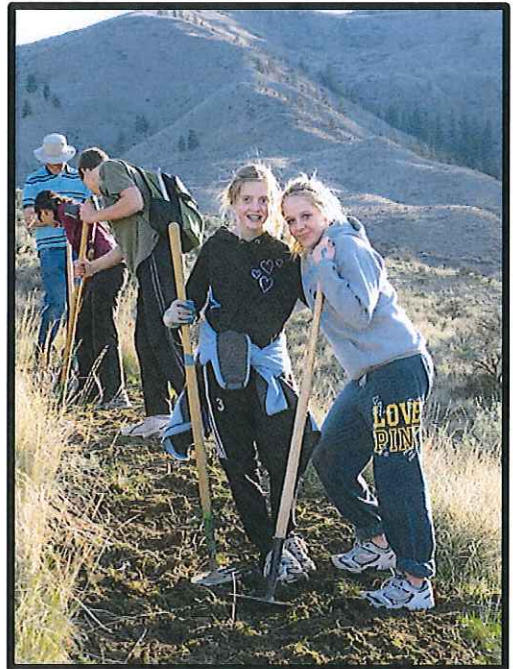
Uses: Capital Construction and Acquisition, Program Services, Maintenance and Operations.

DONATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS AND VOLUNTEER SERVICE

Donations and volunteer service can be effective when a specific project or program is identified. Most of the recreational services that the City provides rely heavily on donations of some type to help provide equipment, materials or other support.

In many cases non-profit foundations may serve as a conduit to receive funding for the completion of parks and recreation related projects. Some grant sources will provide funding to only non-profits. There are several "Friends of" and "Parks Foundations" established that support local or regional parks and recreation agencies. In 2011 The City of Wenatchee teamed up with the Wenatchee Valley Sports Foundation to provide a mechanism to solicit support for specific park and recreation programs and projects.

Uses: Capital Construction and Acquisition, Program Services, Maintenance and Operations.



SPONSORSHIPS

Similar to donations, sponsorships benefit individual programs and also the person or organization providing the sponsorship. Sponsorships are commonly seen in the case of youth athletic teams; however the Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department uses sponsors for many of its programs, facilities and special events. As with donations, sponsorship availability is somewhat dependent upon the economy and competition for funding from other programs and agencies. Obtaining sponsors and donations requires significant staff time to conduct the solicitation and subsequent follow up activity.

Uses: Capital Construction and Acquisition, Program Services, Maintenance and Operations.

GRANTS AND FOUNDATIONS

Generally speaking grants are sums of money awarded to finance a particular activity or facility. Usually, these grant awards do not need to be paid back. Grants are usually highly competitive, may be time consuming to complete, are geared to a specific activity, project or program and in many cases, require some type of financial or other match. There usually is reporting requirements during and following the completion of the grant funded project or program. The city is active in the preparation of grant applications for projects ranging from capital construction and park acquisition to programs. A few examples of grant sources include:

Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program (WWRP). WWRP grants are offered once every two years and state and local agencies are eligible for funding, although a 50 percent match is required from local agencies. According to state statute, WWRP funds must be distributed equally between Outdoor Recreation and Habitat Conservation. A variety of grant programs including Urban Wildlife Habitat, Critical Habitat, Local Parks, Natural Areas, and Riparian Protection are available.



Department of Natural Resources ALEA Program. In 1984, the Washington State Legislature created ALEA to ensure that money generated from aquatic lands was used to protect and enhance those lands. Aquatic lands are all tidelands, shore lands, harbor areas, and the beds of navigable waters. ALEA grants may be used for the acquisition, improvement, or protection of aquatic lands for public purposes. They also may be used to provide or improve public access to the waterfront. The ALEA program is targeted at re-establishing the natural, self-sustaining ecological functions of the waterfront, providing or restoring public access to the water, and increasing public awareness of aquatic lands as a finite natural resource and irreplaceable public heritage.

Salmon Recovery Grants. Salmon recovery grants are awarded by the Salmon Recovery Funding Board to protect and restore salmon habitat. The board funds projects that protect existing, high quality habitats for salmon, and that restore degraded habitat to increase overall habitat health and biological productivity. The board also awards grants for feasibility assessments to determine future projects and for other salmon related activities. Projects may include the actual habitat used by salmon and the land and water that support ecosystem functions and processes important to salmon. The board believes that projects must be developed using science-based information and local citizen review. Projects must demonstrate, through an evaluation and monitoring process, the capacity to be implemented and sustained effectively to benefit fish. Applicants must submit their proposals to their local lead entity rather than directly to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board. The lead entity is responsible for assembling a ranked list of projects from its area and submitting them to the Salmon Recovery Funding Board for consideration.

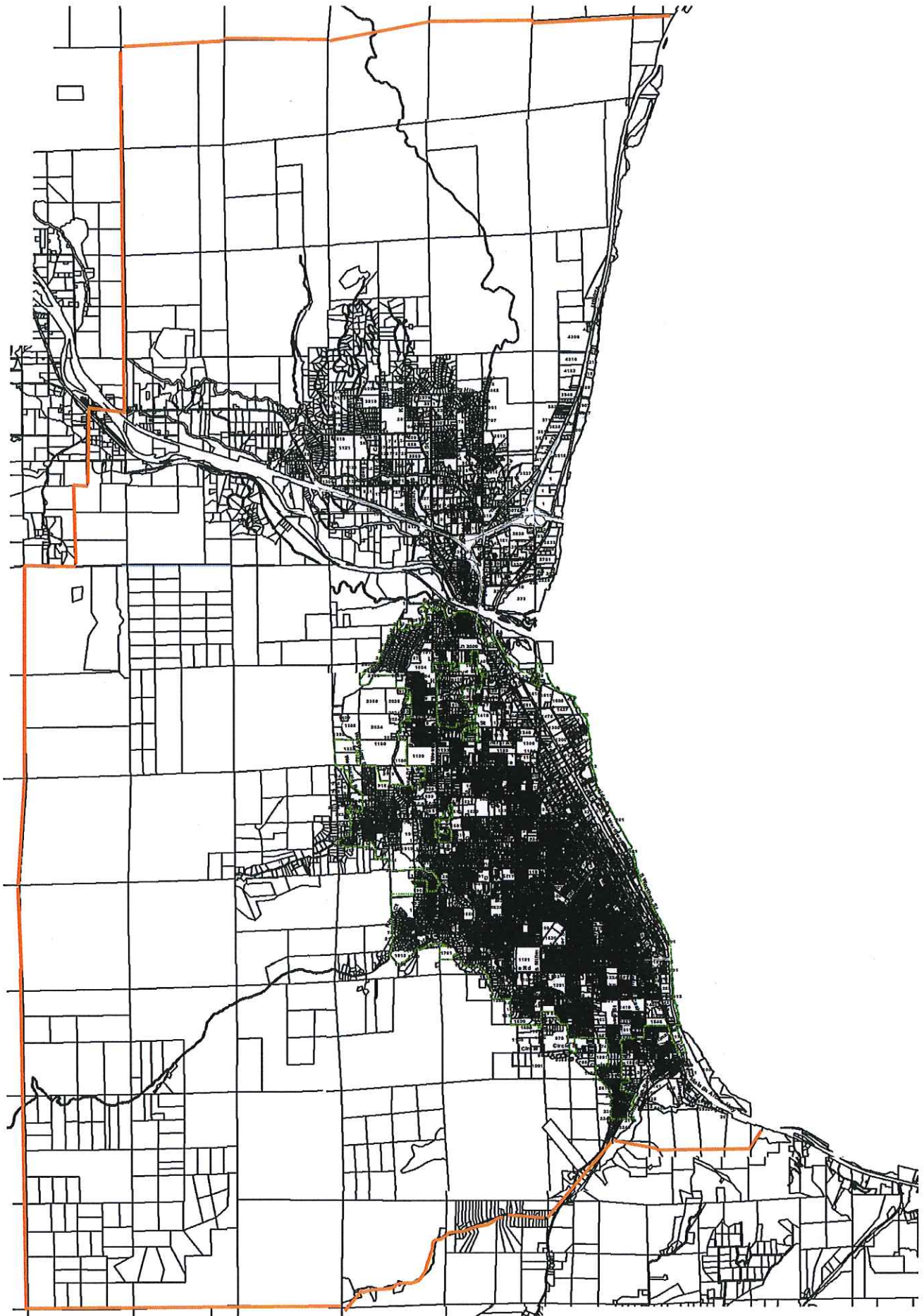
Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). Created in 1965, LWCF is the largest source of federal money for acquiring, preserving, developing, and ensuring accessibility to outdoor recreation resources. The program's funding comes primarily from offshore oil and gas drilling receipts, with an authorized expenditure of \$900 million each year. Under this program, a portion of the money is intended to go to federal land purchases and a portion to the states as matching grants for land protection projects. The stateside LWCF program provides a 50-percent match to states for planning, developing, and acquiring land and water areas for natural resource protection and recreation enhancement. In Washington, the program is administered by the RCO, which receives an average of \$1 million biennially.

State Wildlife Grants (SWG). Created by Congress in 2001, the SWG program is a matching grant program available to every state in support of cost-effective, on-the-ground conservation efforts aimed at restoring or maintaining populations of native species before listing under the Endangered Species Act is required. Funds appropriated under the SWG program are allocated to every state according to a formula based on a state's size and population. Each state determines the best use of their grant funds with the understanding that the money must be used to address conservation needs, such as research, surveys, species and habitat management, and monitoring, identified within a state's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy. Each state has its own process for the prioritization and distribution of these funds.



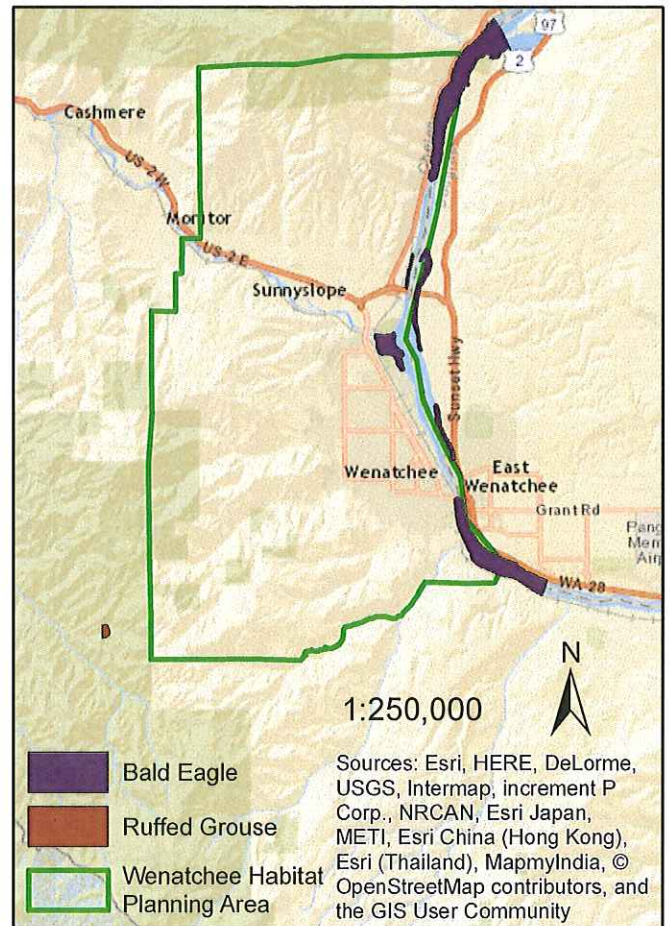
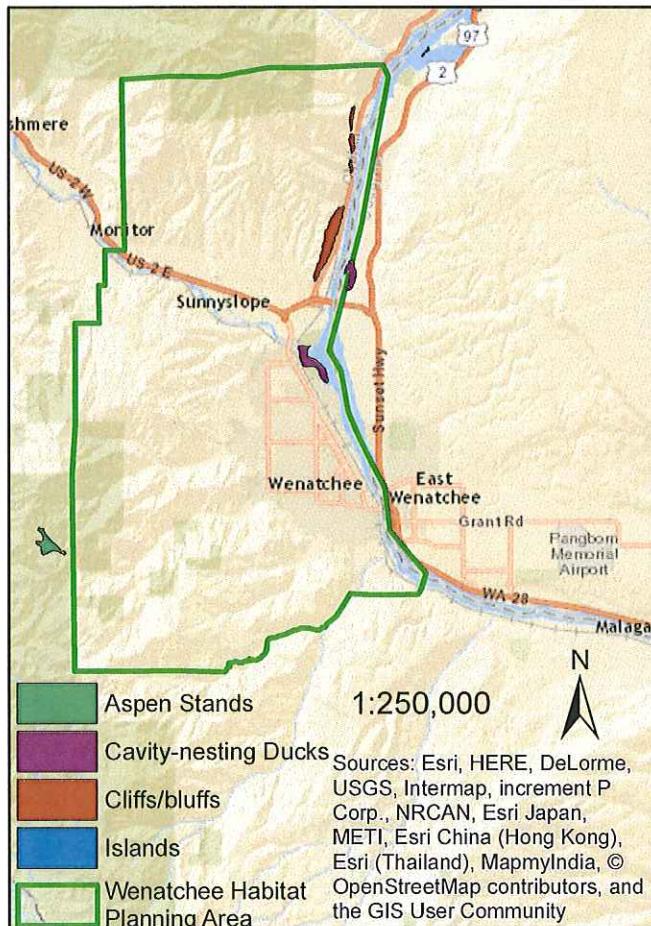
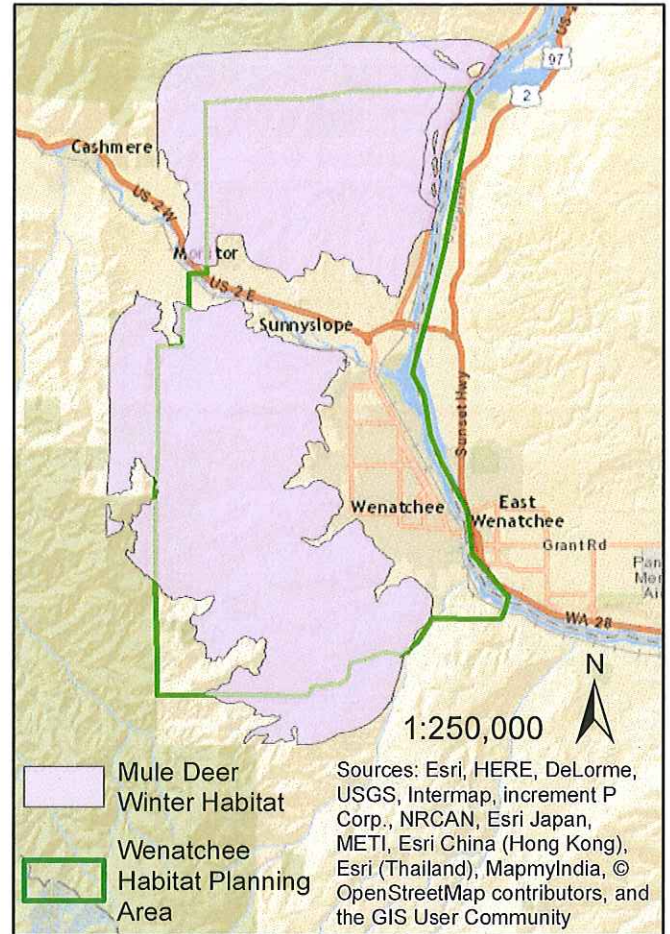
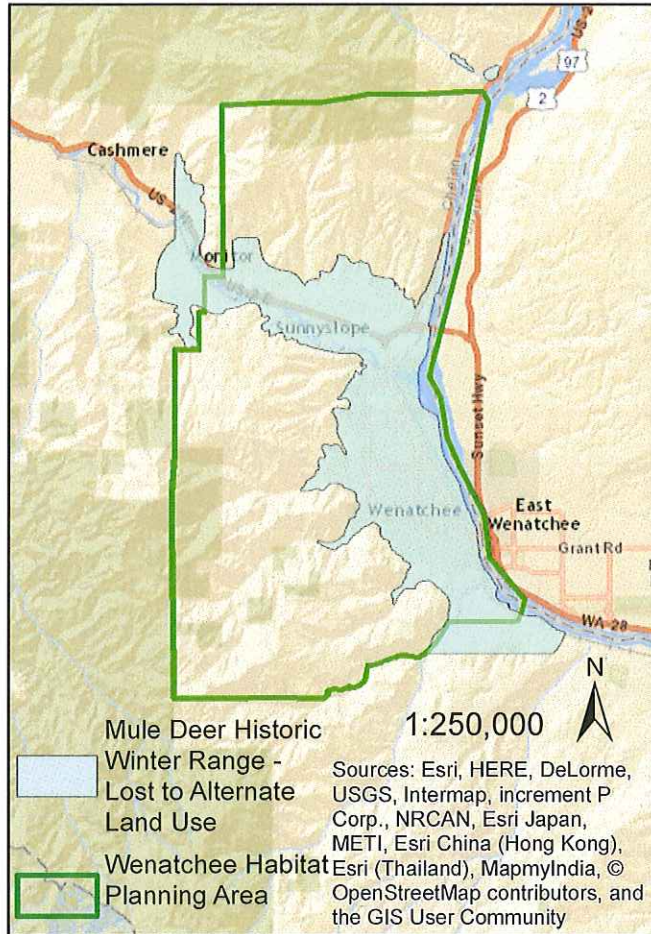
SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Habitat Plan
Planning Area



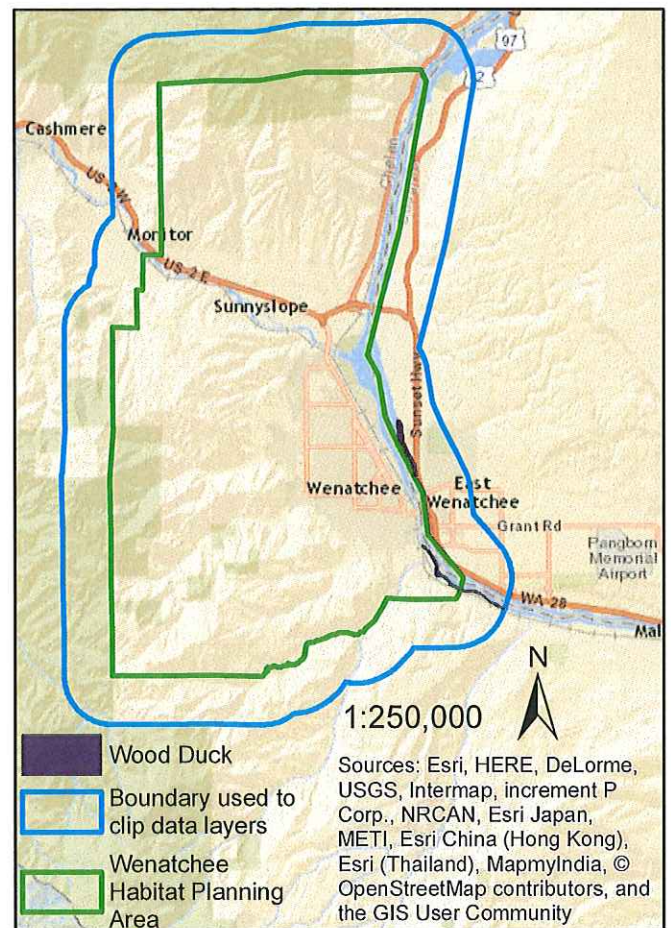
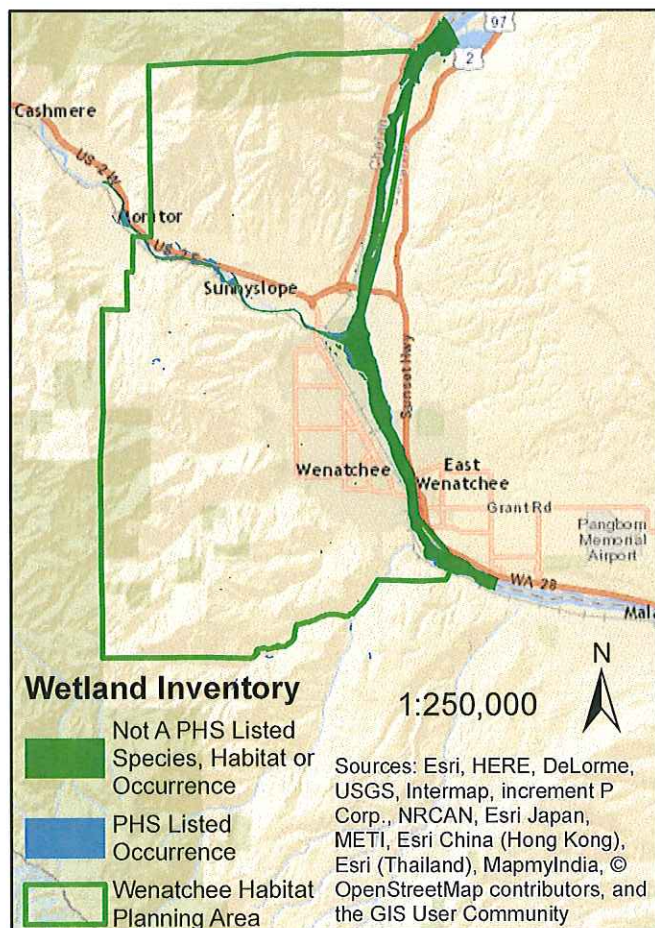
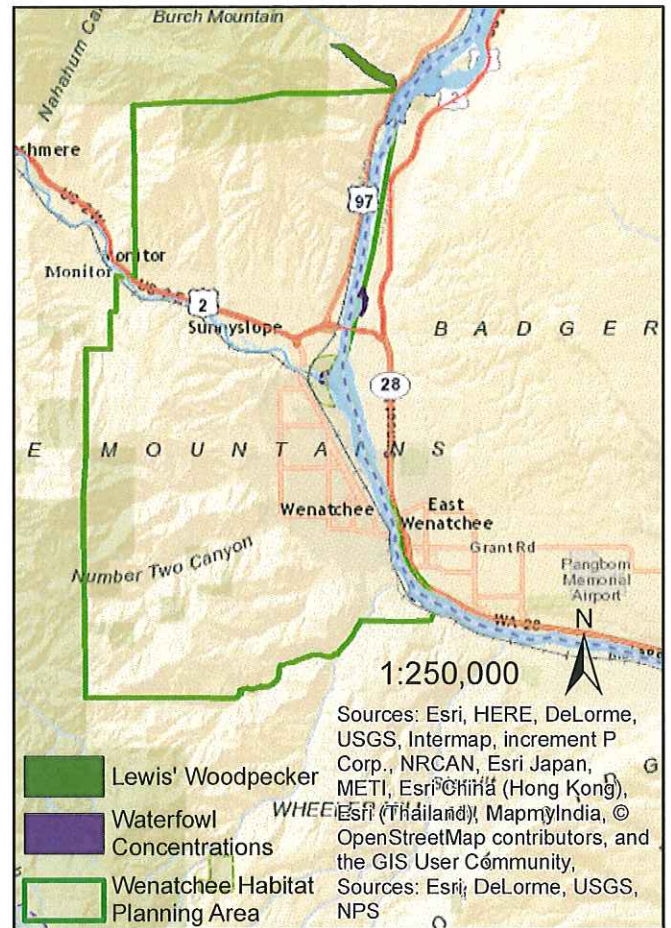
Priority Habitat and Species Areas

Source: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitat and Species Data
Maps are projected at a 1:250K Scale to comply with WDFW Policy 5210(5)(C)

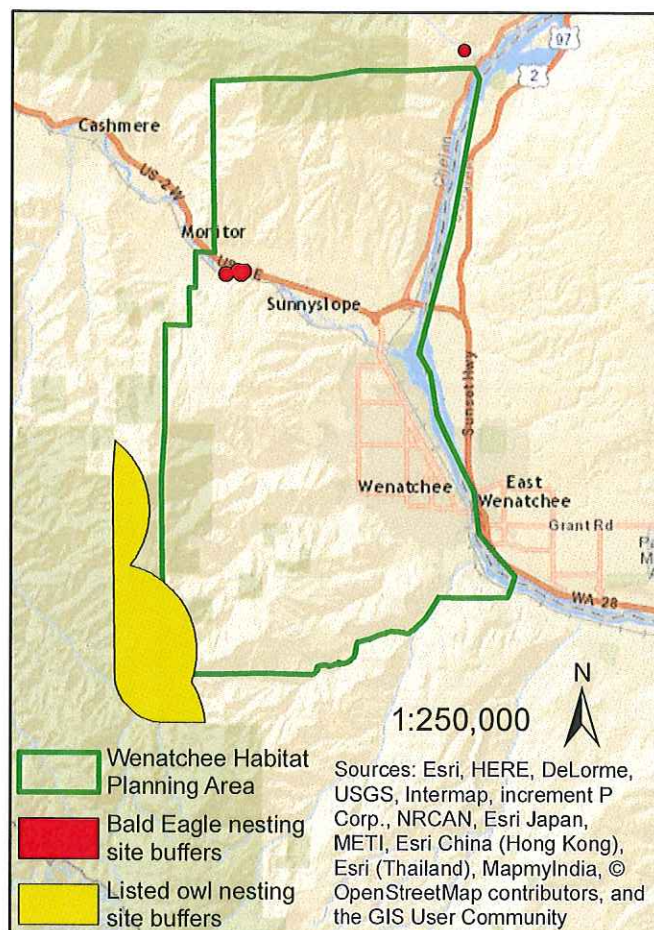


Priority Habitat and Species Areas

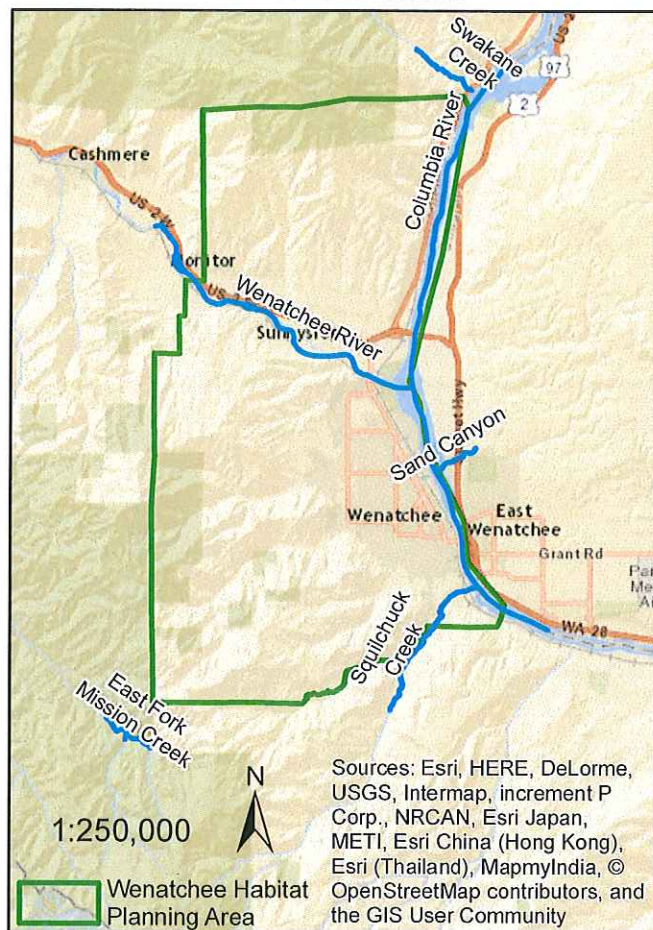
Source: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitat and Species Data
Maps are projected at a 1:250K Scale to comply with WDFW Policy 5210(5)(C)



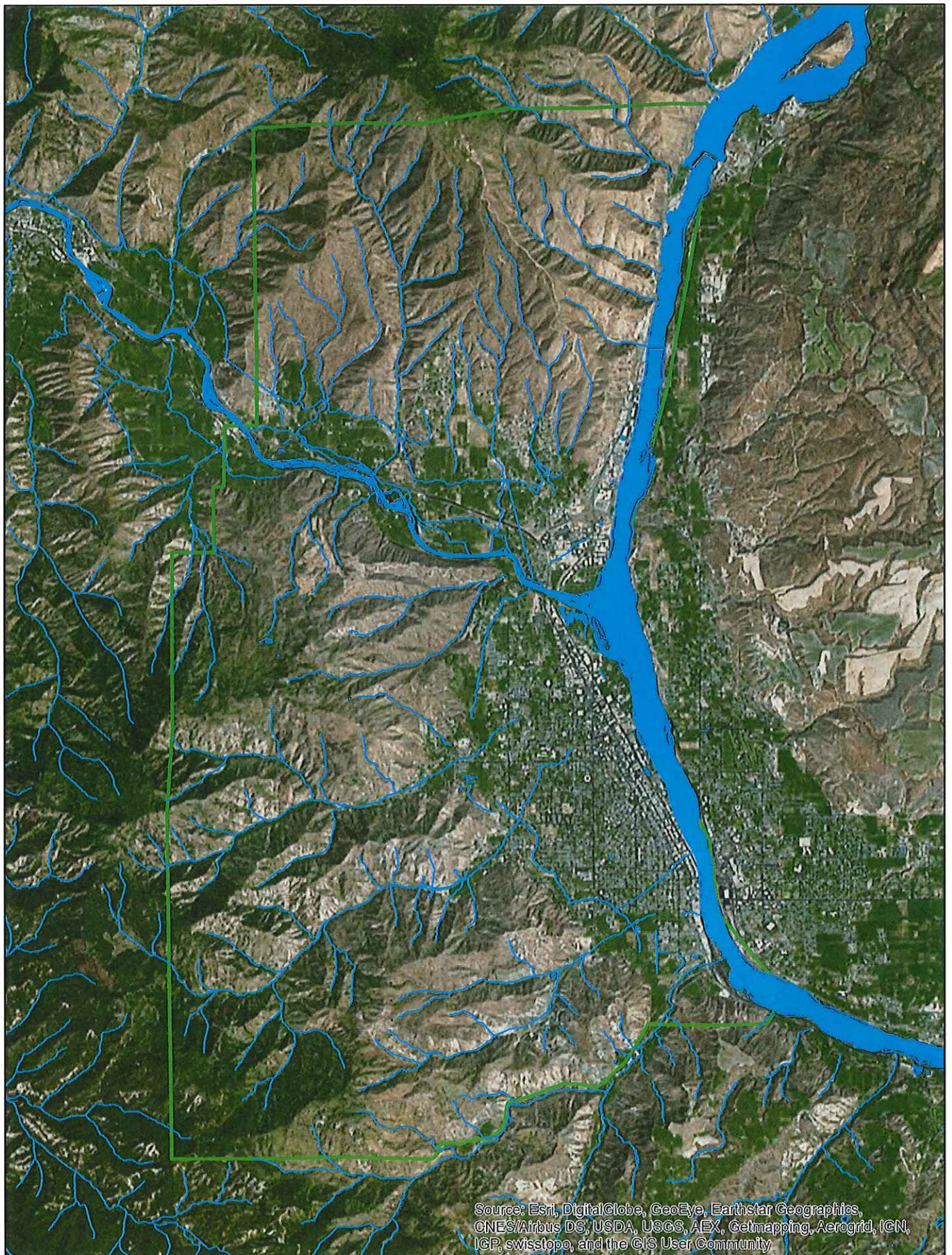
Bald Eagle and listed owl nesting site buffers from the Wildlife Survey Data Management (WSDM) dataset



Streams and Rivers with documented or presumed fish habitat in and near the Wenatchee Habitat Planning Area. See Attached Tables titled "Salmonid Stock Inventory" and "Statewide Integrated Fish Distribution" for more information.



Source: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife Priority Habitat and Species Data
Maps are projected at a 1:250K Scale to comply with WDFW Policy 5210(5)(C)



Legend

- Streams
- USFW Wetlands
- Wenatchee Habitat Planning Area

Source: Chelan County, City of Wenatchee

1:100,000



Water sources in the Wenatchee Habitat Planning Area

Salmonid Stock Inventory (SaSI) in the vicinity of the Wenatche Habitat Planning Area

Species	Run	Status Description	ESA Status	STKNAME	Stream Name
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Unknown	Threatened	Chiwaukum Creek Bull Trout/Dolly Varden	Wenatchee River
Steelhead	Summer	Depressed	Threatened	Wenatchee Summer Steelhead	East Fork Mission Creek
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Unknown	Threatened	Chiwawa Bull Trout/Dolly Varden	Wenatchee River
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Healthy	Threatened	Chikamin Creek Bull Trout/Dolly Varden	Wenatchee River
Steelhead	Summer	Depressed	Threatened	Wenatchee Summer Steelhead	King Canyon
Chinook	Summer	Healthy	Not Warranted	Wenatchee Summer Chinook	Wenatchee River
Chinook	Spring	Depressed	Endangered	Nason Creek Spring Chinook	Wenatchee River
Sockeye	Unspecified	Depressed	Not Warranted	Wenatchee Sockeye	Wenatchee River
Steelhead	Summer	Depressed	Threatened	Wenatchee Summer Steelhead	Wenatchee River
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Unknown	Threatened	Nason Creek Bull Trout/Dolly Varden	Wenatchee River
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Healthy	Threatened	Phelps Creek Bull Trout	Wenatchee River
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Unknown	Threatened	Ingalls Creek Bull Trout	Wenatchee River
Chinook	Spring	Critical	Endangered	White River (Wenatchee) Spring Chinook	Wenatchee River
Chinook	Spring	Critical	Endangered	Little Wenatchee Spring Chinook	Wenatchee River
Chinook	Spring	Depressed	Endangered	Chiwawa Spring Chinook	Wenatchee River
Bull Trout	Unspecified	Healthy	Threatened	Rock Creek Bull Trout	Wenatchee River

Statewide Washington Integrated Fish Distribution (SWIFD) in the vicinity of the Wenatchee Habitat Planning Area

Stream	Species Run	Species	Distribution Type	Use Type	Life History	PHS Priority?
Columbia River	Burbot	Burbot	Presumed	Presence	Resident	
Columbia River	Coho	Coho Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Dolly Varden/ Bull Trout	Bull Trout	Documented	Rearing	Unknown	Y
Wenatchee River*	Dolly Varden/ Bull Trout	Bull Trout	Documented	Rearing	Unknown	Y
Columbia River	Dolly Varden/ Bull Trout	Bull Trout	Documented	Presence	Unknown	Y
Wenatchee River	Dolly Varden/ Bull Trout	Bull Trout	Documented	Rearing	Unknown	Y
East Fork Mission Creek	Eastern Brook Trout	Eastern Brook Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	
King Canyon	Eastern Brook Trout	Eastern Brook Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Squilchuck Creek	Eastern Brook Trout	Eastern Brook Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Swakane Creek	Eastern Brook Trout	Eastern Brook Trout	Presumed	Presence	Resident	
Columbia River	Kokanee	Kokanee Salmon	Documented	Presence	Unknown	Y
Columbia River	Largemouth Bass	Largemouth Bass	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Columbia River	Mountain Whitefish	Mountain Whitefish	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Columbia River	Mountain Whitefish	Mountain Whitefish	Presumed	Presence	Resident	
Wenatchee River	Mountain Whitefish	Mountain Whitefish	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Wenatchee River*	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	Y
Wenatchee River*	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	Y
Columbia River	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	Y
Columbia River	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Unknown	Y
East Fork Mission Creek	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	Y
King Canyon	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Presumed	Presence	Resident	
Squilchuck Creek	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Unknown	Y
Wenatchee River	Rainbow Trout	Rainbow Trout	Documented	Presence	Resident	Y
Columbia River	Smallmouth Bass	Smallmouth Bass	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Wenatchee River*	Sockeye	Sockeye Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Sockeye	Sockeye Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Columbia River	Sockeye	Sockeye Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Sockeye	Sockeye Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Sockeye	Sockeye Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y

* Label added by COW Staff based on observed general location of the associated feature. The features appeared to be side channels of the Wenatchee River. Field was previously empty*

Source: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Statewide Washington Integrated Fish Distribution (SWIFD) in the vicinity of the Wenatchee Habitat Planning Area

Columbia River	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Sand Canyon	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Sand Canyon	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Squilchuck Creek	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Squilchuck Creek	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Spring Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Summer Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Spawning	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Summer Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Spawning	Anadromous	Y
Columbia River	Summer Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Sand Canyon	Summer Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Summer Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Spawning	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Summer Chinook	Chinook Salmon	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River*	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Columbia River	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
East Fork Mission Creek	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
King Canyon	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Sand Canyon	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Squilchuck Creek	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Squilchuck Creek	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Presence	Anadromous	Y
Wenatchee River	Summer Steelhead	Steelhead Trout	Documented	Rearing	Anadromous	Y
Columbia River	Walleye	Walleye	Documented	Presence	Resident	
Wenatchee River	Westslope Cutthroat	Westslope Cutthroat Trout	Documented	Presence	Adfluvial	Y
Columbia River	White Sturgeon	White Sturgeon	Presumed	Presence	Adfluvial	

* Label added by COW Staff based on observed general location of the associated feature. The features appeared to be side channels of the Wenatchee River. Field was previously empty.*

Source: Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife

Habitat Plan Questionnaire Results Summary

Top Ranked

Second Ranked

Third Ranked

Please rank your top three priorities for outdoor recreation as it relates to natural areas.

• Improve access to trails (trailheads, parking areas)	29%
• Management of existing trail system	22%
• Shoreline and river access	7%
• Trail use, education and etiquette	16%
• Trail connectivity	4%
• Acquire properties suitable for outdoor recreation purposes	7%
• New trail access routes to provide access to key areas	4%
• Minimizing conflicts between different trail users (pets, horses, bikes)	2%
• Increased policing to deter crime and vandalism	4%
• Other – Describe	4%
○ More motorized trail options	
○ Need more dog parks	

Please rank your top three priorities for development as it relates to natural areas.

• Impact on views, rural character	31%
• Impact on recreation and access	21%
• Protecting existing agriculture land	10%
• Visual or physical access to rivers	10%
• Cut, fill and grade activities	0%
• Flexibility in development permitting	0%
• Supply of buildable land	5%
• Use of "Green" building technology	10%
• Infrastructure to accommodate new development	10%
• Development incentives	2%
• Other – Describe	2%
○ Require open space be set aside for recreation	

Please rank your top three priorities for wildlife and habitat as it relates to natural areas.

• Wildfire protection	17%
• Noxious weed control	21%
• Enforcement or regulation of activities in environmentally sensitive areas	8%
• Maintaining wildlife corridors and other environmentally sensitive areas	23%
• Minimizing conflicts between recreational use and wildlife protection	19%
• Enhancement of habitat for sensitive species	10%
• Other – Describe	2%
○ Seasonal rather than blanket limitations/rules will allow flexibility for multi uses.	

A number of goals and strategies were developed as part of the 2010 habitat planning efforts. To help us determine if these still apply today, please select your top three strategies in each of the following goal areas:

Development Goal: Guide development to appropriate areas of minimum conflict while adequately meeting the needs of the growing community. (Select your top 3)

- Revise city and county zoning codes to direct growth to appropriate areas, emphasizing the protection of steep slopes and natural character of the landscape. 23%
- Encourage infill development and growth in minimum conflict areas at lower elevations surrounding the foothills through incentive based programs. 16%
- Retain and protect as open space areas having a unique combination of open space values, including: separation or buffering between incompatible land uses; visual delineation of the City or a distinct area or neighborhood of the City; floodwater or storm water storage; storm water purification; recreational value; aesthetic value; and educational value. 14%
- Encourage innovative design and use of “green” building technology in new development. 5%
- Protect the natural integrity and function of steep slopes, drainages, and other areas to minimize risks to community health and safety. 18%
- Support the expansion of infrastructure to meet growth demands in appropriate areas and to protect community health and safety. 5%
- Enhance cooperation and coordination between the City and County on land use planning and development issues in the planning area. 9%
- Require development projects along designated trail routes to incorporate the trail as part of the project. 11%
- Other – Describe 0%

Wildlife, Habitat, and Open Space Goal: Conserve a diversity and abundance of wildlife, habitat, and open space features important to ecological health. (Select your top 3).

- Identify and inventory important native plant, wildlife habitat, and noxious weed areas. 2%
- Retain and protect as open space areas that provides essential habitat for rare, threatened or endangered plant or wildlife species. 12%
- Develop and implement a conservation plan for wildlife and habitats. 12%
- Conserve critical habitat areas using a combination of incentives, best design practices, education, and regulations. 19%
- Foster local environmental education efforts to teach the community about the local ecology. 7%
- Retain and protect as open space areas that provides habitat for fish and wildlife species, serves as a corridor for wildlife movement. 10%
- Encourage public use of areas for wildlife interpretation and observation. 5%
- Promote restoration of habitat and prevent further degradation of critical habitat areas. 21%
- Improve coordination and collaboration among public agencies to facilitate habitat protection and restoration efforts. 12%
- Other – Describe 0%

Recreational Use & Management Goal: Provide a sustainable system of trails, natural areas and amenities that supports multiple recreational uses now and into the future. (Select your top 3).

- Provide visual access to the water develop viewpoints where the topography prevents direct access. 5%
- Build local capacity to manage and develop a sustainable system of natural areas, trails and amenities. 19%
- Acquire shoreline property when it meets current and future needs for public recreation access. 10%
- Improve management and oversight of the existing trail and open space system. 21%
- Build community awareness of trail issues, etiquette, and user responsibilities. 17%
- Actively seek out agreements with utility providers for the use of utility easements for trail and trailhead purposes. 2%
- Take advantage of opportunities for development of waterfront links, access improvements, shoreline restoration and river related activities. 5%
- Endeavor to reduce and minimize user conflicts in public recreational areas. 2%
- Expand the trail system to meet user demand and improve connectivity between existing areas used by the public. 7%
- Improve collaboration and coordination among public agencies on outdoor recreation issues and opportunities. 12%
- Other – Describe 0%

Community Support & Involvement Goal: Build community understanding, support, and involvement in natural area issues and activities to further community investment in, and stewardship of, the resources. (Select your top 3).

- Develop and expand opportunities for the community to be involved in natural area and trail management and activities. 32%
- Explore the feasibility of developing local sources of private and public funding to support conservation and recreation activities. 27%
- Promote environmental education programs and information sharing opportunities to foster a better understanding of the natural resources. 20%
- Increase use of web based resources to help increase awareness, input and education. 7%
- Develop natural area specific volunteer groups and stewards. 15%
- Other – Describe 0%

What strategies are missing that you would like to see added?

- Develop planning incentives promote growth in area that are environmentally appropriate and offer mitigation for other areas within shorelines.
- Preservation of habitat for wildlife.
- Wildfire mgt was mentioned, but it should be a much higher priority.
- none

A number of priorities were developed as part of the 2010 habitat planning efforts. To help us determine if the priorities are still apply today, please select your top 10 from the following list:

- Acquire property for resource protection, public trails and trailheads through a variety of means such as land purchase, land exchange, and trail easement donation or purchase. 6%
- Secure funding from public and private sources to support the expansion and enhancement of the trail and open space system. 5%
- Explore the feasibility of a "Foothills Stewardship Fund" that could attract private philanthropic support. 5%
- Coordinate and lead seasonal field tours and education programs in natural areas. 3%
- Host periodic forums on issues of community interest in the foothills, inviting local experts to provide presentations on hot topics. 0%
- Identify additional priority areas for new trails, trailheads, and access points based on user demand, sensitivities of natural resources and local neighborhoods, and opportunity to connect existing areas used by the public. 5%
- Acquire property and develop existing trails and trailheads identified in the 2006 Foothills Trails Plan not yet completed. 5%
- Conduct periodic trail user surveys to gauge user priorities and preferences. 2%
- Inventory areas of high user conflict and evaluate opportunities for separating trail uses. 2%
- Provide a constructive forum and process for private property owners to address issues with public activity in neighborhoods adjacent to public trails, trailheads, and access points. 2%
- Cultivate a "Friends of the Foothills" volunteer group that helps with restoration, trail building and serves as a conduit for foothills information to the public through a variety of means such as hosting field tours, creating brochures, and providing presentation to local organizations. 4%
- Develop and install consistent, attractive, user friendly signage throughout the foothills system that provides an overview of the trail system, general user responsibilities, rules and regulations, and other pertinent information. 7%
- Develop a program to enhance habitat areas including adding water stations, nesting boxes and other amenities. 1%
- Develop an "Eyes on the Trail" program that engages public and private landowners and trail users in reporting illegal use or destructive behavior along the trail system. 4%
- Improve opportunities for fully accessible amenities in natural areas for those with mobility challenges. 0%
- Support and foster year round recreational activities on trails south of Number Two Canyon. 1%
- Close all trails north of Number Two Canyon from December 1 to April 1 to protect sensitive wildlife. 4%
- Explore the formation of a public trail management authority that oversees maintenance and development of the trail and open space system. 5%
- Build the role of the City of Wenatchee's Park and Recreation Department and Chelan County in overseeing recreational use and activities in the foothills. 2%
- Create a Foothills Stewardship Fund (from private and public sources) to support upkeep and maintenance of trail and natural space system. 0%
- Foster role of Chelan Douglas Land Trust as recreational facility provider in the foothills in close coordination with the City of Wenatchee and Chelan County. 2%

- Create a Foothills Stewardship Fund (from private and public sources) to support weed and erosion control. **2%**
- Protect and enhance aquatic resources. **0%**
- Encourage landowner and broad citizen participation in stewardship programs. **1%**
- Minimize or reduce number of trails in and near priority habitat areas. **1%**
- Promote partnerships with Barn Beach Trust, North Central Washington Audubon, Wenatchee Sportsmen's Association and others to enhance environmental education efforts. **1%**
- Work with realtor and homebuilder associations to distribute the "Good Neighbor Handbook" to new residents to foster learning about local ecology, trail etiquette and foothills friendly development techniques. **0%**
- Support Wenatchee School District's Saddlerock Environmental Education program, Wenatchee Valley College's natural resource degree program and related field experience programs for youth. **5%**
- Protect sensitive habitat areas, wildlife corridors, and critical natural resources of public value through methods such as purchase, donation, easements, land exchanges, or the use of innovative planning tools such as open space designation, density bonuses, or transfer of development rights. **2%**
- Minimize wildlife disturbance in the design of new trails, recreational areas, and trail management. **6%**
- Strengthen the partnership among various local, state, and federal agencies to fund and work together to develop a detailed conservation plan for the planning area. **2%**
- Determine need for county overlay zoning and standards for identified open space and trail systems. **1%**
- Determine need for a fill and grade ordinance to guide development activities in the foothills. **1%**
- Explore feasibility of implementing a city/county transfer of development rights program that directs new growth to desired areas. **2%**
- Monitor outcomes of county subdivision regulations to promote clustering of homes to protect significant open space or landscape features and provide additional incentive for provision of recreational access or protection of critical habitat areas. **2%**
- Work with the city, county, realtor, homebuilder, and landowner associations to educate landowners about opportunities for donation or purchase of development rights. **1%**
- Explore feasibility of city/county development and adoption of "foothills design guidelines" that provide suggestions on site development, design, grading, road improvements, re-vegetation, building standards, requirement of "green" development standards, and other building options. **2%**
- Explore the development of city/county development incentives to encourage the use of native plants in landscape plans and site development. **0%**
- Support current storm water best management practices to ensure new development provides proper management and maintenance of floodway and drainage mechanisms and facilities to maximize safety and preservation of natural features. **2%**
- Facilitate and prioritize the extension of pedestrian/bike facilities to enhance connections to the foothills trail network. **2%**
- As needed, convene annual or bi-annual city/county public forum to provide the opportunity for local residents to learn about foothills development plans and discuss issues of concern and interest with community leaders. **1%**

- Explore collaborative designation of buildable areas, slope protection areas, and open space protection areas in the foothills that require a minimum base density and establish development incentives such as density bonus transfers. **1%**
- Conduct resource assessment that involves gathering and analyzing field data to accurately identify important resource areas. **0%**
- Develop partnership agreements among public agencies to support habitat field monitoring and inventory projects. **1%**
- Engage the public in inventory efforts through “citizen science” projects. **0%**

The 2030 Vision for the Wenatchee Foothills states: The Wenatchee Foothills are a well-managed community resource that provides an extensive network of trails, trailheads, and access points as well as scenic views and vistas for the public to enjoy. The landscape is home to healthy wildlife populations supported by a diversity of native plants and natural lands. There is limited yet well planned development that accentuates the natural character of the Foothills. The community is active, supportive, and involved in land management and planning decisions, and a broad network of citizen groups, public agencies, and private organizations work together to realize the community’s vision for the landscape.

Does the 2030 vision prepared in 2010 still capture your sentiment for the future of the Wenatchee Foothills?

Yes	87%
No	13%

If it doesn't, what would you add/change?

- Better incorporation of motorized recreation opportunities and expansion in the foothills, and surrounding areas.
- 'somewhat' would be the choice. Easy to make sentences that people will agree with, but the key is in implementation

The current guiding principles for the Wenatchee Foothills are:

- Protect the unique natural character of the Foothills
- Conserve critical wildlife habitat and other sensitive areas
- Respect and support landowner rights
- Appropriately balance public use and community values with private benefit
- Actively manage recreational use of areas that are open to the public
- Foster collaboration among diverse interests to improve understanding, communication, and decision making
- Minimize the environmental impact of land use activities
- Actively manage growth through a combination of rules, education, and incentives
- Protect scenic views, vistas, and viewpoints
- Foster community education efforts about how to conserve and respect Foothills resources
- Engage the community in land use and management activities

Do the 2030 guiding principles prepared in 2010 still capture your sentiment for the future of the Wenatchee Foothills?

Yes	93%
No	7%

If it doesn't, what would you add/change?

- I'd like to see targeted and meaningful motorized access incorporated in the plan.

What additional suggestions do you have?

- Find ways to better incorporate motorized shared trail use in habitat planning efforts
- Set aside areas for dogs off-leash, even if it has to be seasonal (that is okay)
- I'd like the city to reach out specifically to business owners who cater to motorized users and get their feedback on how to improve this plan.
- Minimize the number of trails and protect more habitat for wildlife.
- As a pedestrian, I don't visit the trails as often as I would like, because just getting to the trailhead can be an adventure in itself. For example, I have to hike almost half a mile from the closest bus stop just to get to the Saddle Rock trails. It would be nice if trailhead information included the nearest bus stop and how to get to the trail from that bus stop.

As for the trail system itself, I think it is extremely important to keep educating the public on best use, ecology, and conservation (what's out there and how we can keep it there). I see too much disregard for Nature as a whole, and disrespect of what people actually have here.

Demographics

What is your gender?

Male	38%
Female	62%

What is your age group?

8-15	0%
16-20	0%
21-30	0%
31-40	19%
41-50	6%
51-64	56%
65+	19%

Where respondents live:

Wenatchee	62%
Chelan County	12%
East Wenatchee	12%
Douglas County	6%
Cashmere	0%
Leavenworth	4%
Entiat	0%

Chelan	0%
Dryden	0%
Peshastin	0%
Orondo	0%
Waterville	0%
Other	0%